DH on Saturday

DECCAN HERALD
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Accenture cuts over 11k jobs in 3 months amid AI push

P15

Abhishek, Sanju, Tilak star in thrilling win

India beat Lanka in Super Over after exciting tie

P21

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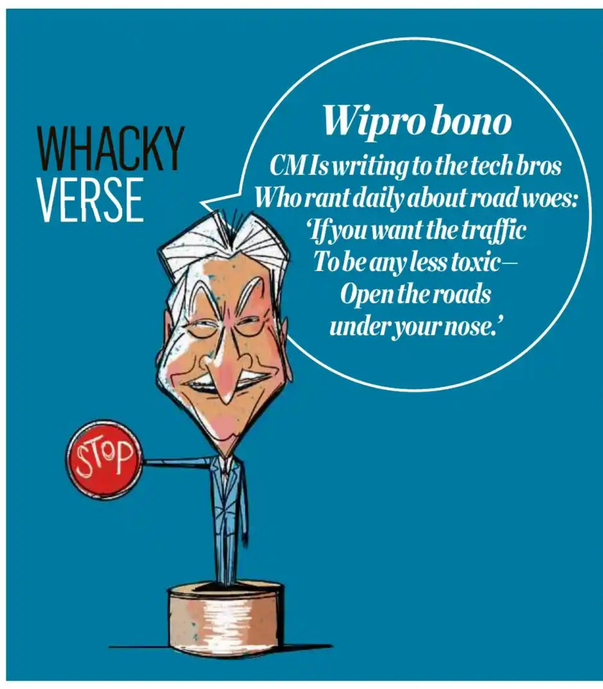


DH on Saturday

DECCAN HERALD
The Power of Good

Suryakumar fined 30% of match fee

India appeal; Rauf also fined; Farhan escapes with warning

P21

In the crossfire of the Gen Z uprising

A DH journalist recounts what she saw during Nepal's anti-corruption protests

From September 8 to 13, Kathmandu witnessed the worst protests in its history. Though a social media ban had sparked it, the 'Gen Z protest' was driven more by citizens' growing anger towards the 'corrupt government'.

In this week's Saturday Story, a *DH* journalist shares her experience being stranded in the capital during the riots. On her return from the Kailash Mansarovar yatra, she was scheduled to spend two days in Kathmandu before flying back to Bengaluru. But the riots began the day she arrived.

The SATURDAY STORY

The hotel she was staying in locked its gates, instructing guests to remain indoors. She ended up spending five days there. Through her window, she saw buildings engulfed in smoke and crowds protesting on the streets.

Despite warnings, she ventured out to visit a temple on the fourth day. Finally, when the airport reopened, she immediately booked her tickets, paying a premium to return to India.

Full story, Page 17

NEW TRUMP SHOCK

- US is India's largest pharmaceutical export market, accounting for around 35% of total exports
- Around 80% of India's total pharma exports to the US in 2024-25 were generic drugs
- Shares of Sun Pharma, Dr Reddy's Labs, Cipla, Aurobindo Pharma fall sharply
- 100% tariff means the prices of imported branded and patented products will double for US importers/consumers

US imposes 100% tariff on branded drug imports

Move spares generic drugs for now; shares of Indian pharma firms sink

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

US President Donald Trump has announced a new round of tariffs, including a 100% duty on import of branded or patented drugs in America, a move that sank the share prices of leading Indian pharmaceutical companies on Friday.

"Starting October 1st, 2025, we will be imposing a 100% tariff on any branded or patented pharmaceutical product, unless a company 'is building' their pharmaceutical manufacturing plant in America," Trump wrote on his social media platform Truth Social.

Trump clarified that "is building" will be defined as 'breaking ground' and/or 'under construction.' "There will, therefore, be no tariff on these pharmaceutical products if construction has started," he added.

The US President has also announced imposition of a 50% tariff on all kitchen cabinets, bathroom vanities and associated products, a 30% tariff on upholstered furniture, and a 25% tariff on all heavy trucks, citing national security issues.

While the US new tariffs are not India specific, unlike the 50% duty imposed last month, it has caused jitters among Indian drug manufacturers and investors, leading to a 10% slump in their share prices.

Reacting to the fresh round of US tariffs, the Indian government said it is monitoring the matter.

"We have seen the report on pharma and other products, and the relevant ministry and department are closely monitoring the matter and examining its impact," the Minister of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at a media briefing.

▸ Tariff, Page 8

What are generic drugs?

A generic drug is a medication created to be the same as an already marketed brand-name drug in dosage form, safety, strength, route of administration, quality, performance characteristics, and intended use, according to USFDA. These similarities help to demonstrate bioequivalence, which means that a generic medicine works in the same way as the brand-name medicine.

Tariff unlikely to impact India's pharma exports

MAHESH KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

The proposed 100% tariff on branded and patented pharmaceutical imports from October 1 by the Trump administration is unlikely to have an immediate impact on Indian exports, as the bulk of India's contribution lies in simple generics.

Most large Indian companies already operate manufacturing or repackaging units in the US and are exploring further acquisitions. India accounts for about 47% of the US's requirement of affordable, high-quality generic medicines.

"The decision to impose a 100% tariff on pharma imports is for branded and patented drugs, while India predominantly exports generic drugs to America. India supplies over 45% of the generics used in the USA, and 15% of biosimilars used. While there is still uncertainty on future tariff plans with respect to complex generics, currently they are not under the purview of the tariffs," said Arushi Jain, director of Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals.

▸ India's pharma, Page 8
India blasts NATO chief, Page 13

ORR stretch to get TenderSURE makeover

White-topping part of plan for tech corridor

DH SPECIAL

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru's most-congested tech corridor may soon get a global facelift.

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has proposed a TenderSURE-style revamp of the 24-km Outer Ring Road (ORR) stretch with the aim of turning it into a "world-class" mobility corridor. The blueprint — which is almost ready — includes white-topping the main carriageway, laying underground ducts for utility lines and redesigning junctions.

The project, stretching from Baiyappanahalli on Old Madras Road to Silk Board junction, is expected to benefit 6.5 lakh employees working in tech companies along the stretch.

The GBA's offshoot Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Ltd (B-SMILE) has engaged city-based Infra Support Engineering Consultants Pvt Ltd to prepare the detailed project report (DPR).

Officials said pedestrian-first features such as cycle lanes, safe crossings, long bridges at KR Puram and Silk Board junction, public plazas at Tin Factory and Iblur junction are central to the plan. There is also a proposal to redesign the space below the flyovers for multi-utility use and integrate the corridor with the lake edges at Agara and Benniganahalli.

B S Prahlad, Technical Director at B-SMILE, said the blueprint was almost ready. "Fortune500 firms are located here. They employ over 6.5 lakh people. We will undertake a mix of initiatives from signage to underground ducts. White-topping is also part of the plan. We will also incorporate the Directorate of Urban Land Transport report," he told *DH*.

▸ ORR, Page 8

NEW LOOK

- Main carriageway to be white-topped
- Underground ducts like in TenderSURE model
- Multi-utility spaces under the flyovers
- Pedestrian crossings and signages
- Public plaza
- Integrating lake edge at Agara and Benniganahalli

Activist Sonam Wangchuk arrested under NSA

SRINAGAR, DHNS: Sonam Wangchuk, Ladakh's most prominent activist, was arrested on Friday under the National Security Act (NSA), two days after violent protests in Leh left four people dead and over 90 injured.

The arrest marks a sharp escalation and is expected to deepen the statehood movement, putting the Centre in a tight spot as it seeks to manage discontent in a strategically sensitive region.

The Union Home Ministry directly linked Wangchuk to the unrest, accusing him of making provocative speeches—including references to "Arab Spring-style protests" and "Gen Z protests in Nepal"—that allegedly incited mobs.

A day earlier, the Centre cancelled the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) registration of his non-profit, the Students Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh (SECMOL), citing alleged irregularities. Officials claimed the group had violated foreign funding rules.

The activist, however, denied the charge, insisting SECMOL never received foreign donations. "We only engaged in legitimate transactions with the UN and European organisations and paid all taxes," he said.

Before his arrest, the 2018 Ramon Magsaysay Award winner told reporters: "I am not afraid of being arrested."

▸ Activist, Page 8

Climate activist Sonam Wangchuk. PTI

Survey: No extension, buck up, CM tells officials

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday ruled out any extension for the Social & Educational Survey, which he said would end on October 7 as scheduled, and directed officials to speed up the exercise.

After a meeting to review the survey, Siddaramaiah conceded that the exercise was tardy since its start on September 22 till Thursday due to technical issues. The survey has covered 2.76 lakh out of 1.43 crore families, he pointed out.

"There were technical issues, which have been resolved. From Friday, the survey will be brisk and will happen as expected," he said.

"Because the survey did not happen properly in the first four days (September 22-25), it must be made up in the remaining period. There is no question of any extension. The ongoing work will be expedited," Siddaramaiah said.

The government has asked enumerators and supervisors to achieve 10% progress daily against the current 2-4%.

Deputy commissioners and zilla panchayat CEOs must review the survey everyday. "Issues must be attended to promptly," he said, adding that regional commissioners must supervise and secretaries in charge of districts and officers in charge of taluks must get involved.

▸ Survey, Page 8

Pak: India tried to exploit Pahalgam tragedy

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Pakistan on Friday called the April 22 terrorist attack at Pahalgam "a human tragedy" and accused India of trying to extract political gains out of the incident and violating international laws by putting in abeyance the Indus Water Treaty.

Pakistan PM Shehbaz Sharif, addressing the United Nations General Assembly, claimed Pakistan had won in the May 7-10 flareup with India and that Pakistan had turned seven of India's fighter jets into scrap and dust".

Details on Page 15

MIGHTY BIRD

End of an era as IAF retires MiG-21 after six decades of flight

KALYAN RAY
CHANDIGARH, DHNS

From its precision strike at the Governor's House in Dhaka during the 1971 campaign to neutralising Pakistan Navy's Atlantique spy plane post Kargil and shooting down a superior Pakistani F-16 combat jet during the Balakot air raid — the formidable MiG-21 has been at the core of the Indian Air Force's moments of glory. Not anymore.

After 62 years of service, the IAF on Friday bid adieu to the mighty fighter at a glittering ceremony at Chandigarh air base where the first unit — 28 Squadron, also known as the First Supersonics – was raised.

Over the years, the IAF operated 874 aircraft, nearly 600 of which were made in India by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. Despite numerous accidents, the combat jet retained its reputation and pilots who flew the aircraft swear by it.

"I have flown MiG-21 for 26 years. Its reputation was so good during the 1965 war that Pakistanis didn't fly their supersonics. In 1971, it directly got involved and 80% of credit in the formation of Bangladesh should go to MiG-21," said Air Commodore S S Tyagi, who has flown the jet for 4,306 hours, the maximum in the IAF.

The Soviet-origin jet was inducted originally as an interceptor, but the IAF modified it for ground attack, air defence, surveillance (thanks to an innovation made during the 1971 war) and training. During Operation Sindoor, it was used for surveillance and reconnaissance.

"After all these years, it is not merely a fighter aircraft but a family member. No one can forget the strike on the Governor's House in Dhaka that decided the outcome of the war," Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said at the event in Chandigarh attended by over 2,000 IAF veterans and their families.

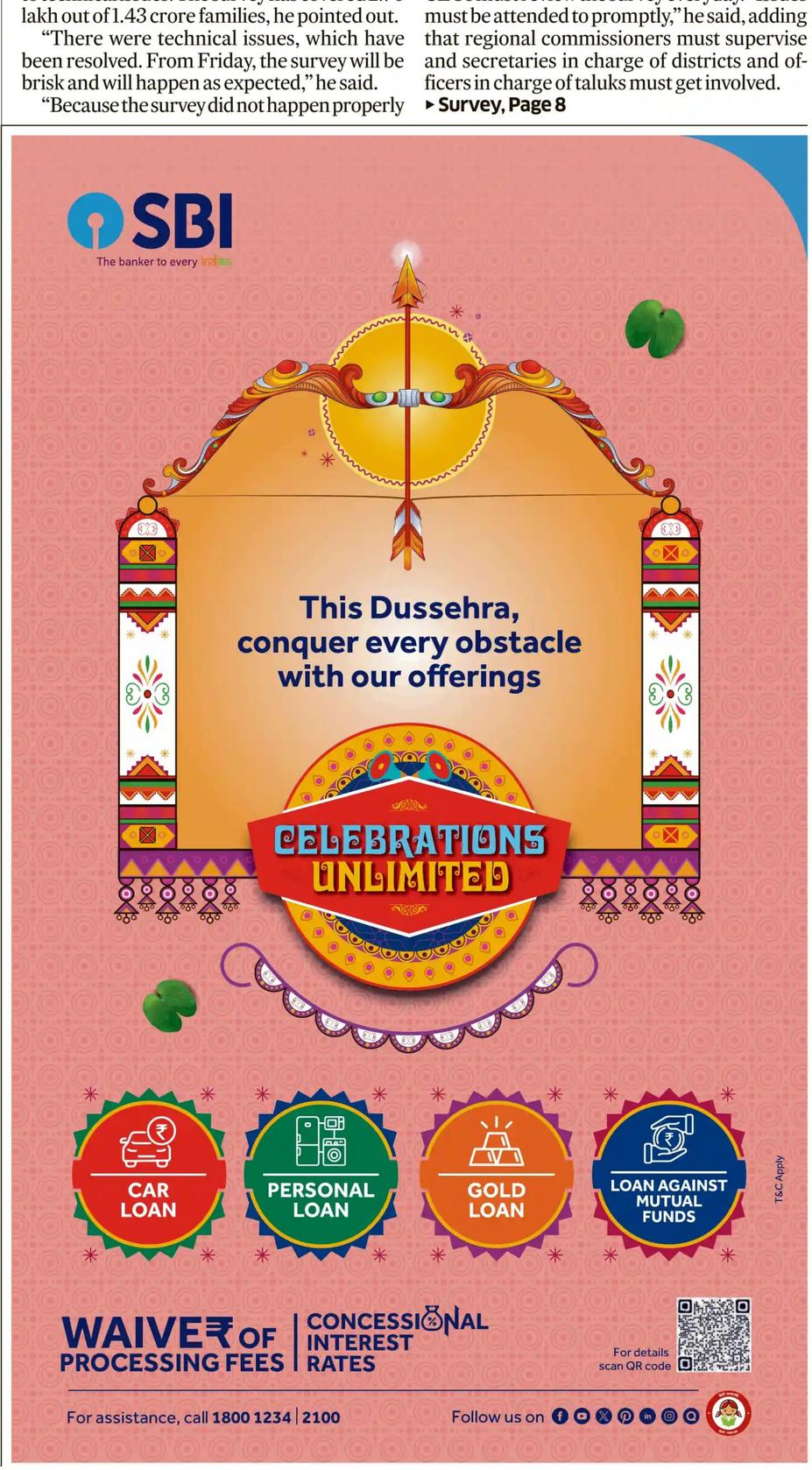
"MiG-21 has been a witness to numerous heroic deeds. Its contribution has not been limited to a single event or single war. From the war of 1971 to Kargil conflict, from the Balakot airstrike to Operation Sindoor, there has not been a moment when MiG-21 didn't provide strength to the forces," the minister said.

▸ MiG-21, Page 8

IAF'S FIRST SUPERSONIC FIGHTER

- Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG-21 inducted in 1963
- 874 of them served in the IAF
- Nearly 600 manufactured by HAL
- Globally 11,700 were sold to different air forces
- More than 400 crashes over the years
- Over 200 pilots and nearly 60 civilians were killed
- **Last two MiG-21 squadrons to retire:** No 3 Squadron (Cobras) and No 23 Squadron (Panthers)

An IAF MiG-21 jet takes to the sky at Chandigarh Air Force Station on Friday. PTI



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Furniture worth Rs 5 crore gutted in Malleswaram fire

BENGALURU, DHNS: A massive fire on Friday morning gutted a furniture store on Pipeline Road in Malleswaram, destroying goods worth Rs 5 crore, according to the police.

No casualties were reported despite a close call involving 10 workers who were sleeping inside the shop when the fire broke out. The blaze, suspected to have been caused by an electrical short circuit, was reported around 2.30 am. Flames from the furniture store quickly spread to three adjacent houses, causing further damage, a Vyalikaval police officer said.

Thirteen fire tenders rushed to the scene and battled the blaze for hours, finally bringing it under control by 5.30 am.

Dinesh Gundu Rao, Minister of Health and Family Welfare, who is also the local MLA, visited the spot to take stock of the situation.

The Vyalikaval police have registered a case, and an investigation is underway to ascertain the exact cause of the fire and the extent of the damage.

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BENGALURU METRO'S FARE HIKE

Confusion and contradictions

Was the BMRCL's fare hike a fair one? What does BMRCL say about the questions raised by critics?

SATYA ARIKUTHARAM

In mid-February 2025, Bengaluru metro commuters experienced a significant fare hike. Following the commuter outrage and political mudslinging, the Chief Minister of Karnataka directed the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to review the fares.

A press conference then followed, where the BMRCL managing director admitted to "technical" errors while struggling to explain both the basis and the subsequent partial rollback of the fare hike. Yet, 80% of commuters ended up paying more than 70% higher fares.

Commuters demanded the publication of the Fare Fixation Committee (FFC) Report, which recommended the extraordinary fare hike. BMRCL refused to provide the document and stated that it was confidential in response to RTI requests. Recently, BMRCL finally uploaded the FFC Report.

Commuters on the first day of commercial service of Namma Metro's Yellow Line at Rashtriya Vidyalaya interchange station in Bengaluru on August 11. DH PHOTOS/PUSHKAR V

The flawed formula

The FFC report revealed that BMRCL had requested a fare hike of 105.15%, purportedly based on the DMRC's 4th FFC formula.

This formula estimates the changes in staff, energy, maintenance and administration costs since the last fare hike. Staff cost changes are calculated based on the Consumer Price Index. Average energy cost changes per unit, as well as maintenance and administration costs per route kilometre, are derived from the audited financial statements.

The question is: Why use a formula when actual audited O&M cost data is already available for all the components? The formula could indicate how closely the O&M cost base aligns with the CPI, given that staff costs account for 61% of the total O&M costs. However, BMRCL, for reasons unknown, applied the formula and also made an error, particularly in its estimate of the maintenance cost/km changes. While applying the formula BMRCL inappropriately implied a 105.15% increase in O&M costs per kilometre since 2017-18 (or 2016-17, given the erroneous use of data from both years). In contrast, total audited O&M costs increased by 39.6% between 2017/18 and 2023/24. The only explanation for this difference is the faulty application of the formula.

The BMRCL seems to have mixed up costs from 2016-17 and route kms from 2017-18 in calculating the maintenance and admin cost/km in the base year. These costs associated with running 30.3 km of metro network in 2016-17 were divided by 42.3 km of metro network in 2017/18 to calculate the cost/km. Naturally, the low base of 0.38 crores/km thus calculated exaggerated the cost/km increase to a massive 366% relative to 2023/24 costs, which were 1.77 crores/km.

The energy cost per unit, as indicated by BMRCL in the formula, also differs from the unit rates for BMRCL published by KERC. Correcting for these errors, the formula estimates a fare hike of 50.23% (as against 105.15%), which is much closer to the 39.6% increase in total O&M cost/km based on audited financial statements. Interestingly, the CPI increase from the last fare hike to September 2024 was 47.12%, clearly indicating that BMRCL's O&M cost base mainly grew in line with the CPI.

Where did FFC falter?

The FFC Report acknowledged BMRCL's fare hike request but failed to highlight the flaws in its application, particularly the low cost/km and the incorrect base year. A detailed analysis would have revealed several other fundamental flaws in BMRCL's cost and revenue management.

- BMRCL has a record of inordinate construction delays, which have severely impacted revenue generation.
- With all its foreign currency-denominated loans, BMRCL has no basic hedging strategy for loan servicing.
- BMRCL doesn't conduct cost audits, as there is no mandatory requirement to maintain cost records and audits.
- BMRCL has not leveraged the vast potential of non-farebox revenues

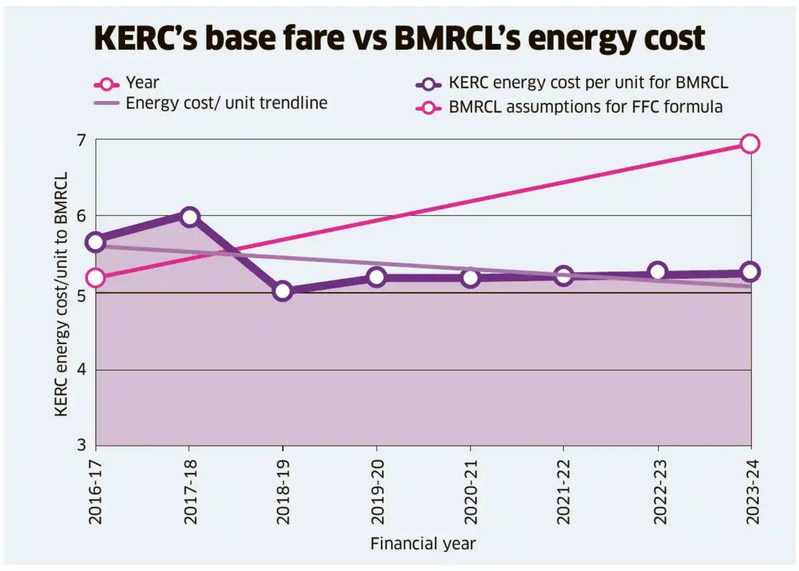
So, is BMRCL trying to recover the financial implications of delays, poor cost and loan management, and low non-fare box revenues through an unreasonable high fare hike? This should have been a natural and obvious question for the FFC.

FFC also did not ask BMRCL why it considered the DMRC formula suitable for BMRCL. The 3rd FFC of Delhi in 2009 had made its fare hike recommendations solely based on CPI changes. However, the DMRC Board felt that CPI was not representative of its O&M costs increase and therefore decided in 2016 to base its fare hike request on the formula, which was reviewed and corrected by the 4th FFC.

The original DMRC formula had only considered absolute cost changes, which exaggerated the cost increase without adjusting for network expansion. Eventually, the DMRC actually implemented a fare hike of 108% after applying the corrected formula, which was significantly lower than the actual O&M cost/km increase of 133%.

Had BMRCL just made a case for a 39.6% fare hike based on its historic O&M cost/km increase, the FFC would have easily awarded it, as the basis for the claim was audited financial statements. However, FFC was faced with a 105.15% hike request, which was clearly unaffordable for commuters. Therefore, it moderated the hike to a simple average of 51.55%.

However, fare slabs that account for almost 80% of passengers saw a more than 70% increase. FFC should have insisted that the average 51.55% hike be uniformly applied, i.e., capped at 51.55% for all fare slabs, to lessen the burden on Bengaluru commuters. Not doing so resulted in a steep 71.43% increase, compared to the O&M cost increase of 39.6%.



BMRCL should fix fair fares

BMRCL, in its clarification to the errors pointed out on social media, insisted the formula was correctly applied. In doing so, it basically admitted to the use of 2016-17 costs and 2017-18 route kms.

Regarding energy costs, BMRCL stated that there are other cost components associated with energy costs. However, BMRCL continues to be charged concessional tariffs even in 2025-26, and unit costs are likely to come down further in the next two years. Therefore, while unit energy costs decreased from 2017-18, BMRCL estimates that they have risen by 33.72% solely due to other energy cost components.

BMRCL, in another set of clarifications, admitted that the 105.15% increase request had components other than O&M expenses. According to BMRCL, it is a portion of depreciation and debt servicing components. However, it is a mystery how exactly BMRCL incorporated this into the formula. The formula clearly doesn't allow for any other cost components.

The Bengaluru Urban Transport and Infrastructure Fund collects cess and surcharges on various activities and transactions. BMRCL receives a 43.33% share from this fund, primarily to fund metro expansion, interest repayments, and the depreciation fund. Therefore, Bengaluru commuters should not be funding metro expansion, interest repayments or depreciation through fares.

Thus, BMRCL cannot be allowed to pass off its inefficiencies through an unfair fare hike to Bengaluru commuters. The fare hike must be reduced and capped at 51.55% of the FFC recommendation, and it should be frozen until the Pink and Blue lines are completed. Only that represents a fair fare hike for Bengaluru commuters.

(The author is an independent mobility expert)

BMRCL's responses to fare formula critique

Here's what BMRCL officials with knowledge of the fare hike deliberations have told *DH:*

- **Justification for taking DMRC fare rules:** For DMRC, four FFCs were constituted from 2005 to 2016. All four FFCs have adopted the same formula with some improvement, which BMRCL adopted since the nature of income and expenditure remains the same. The cost of security personnel posted at all metro stations, depots, etc, in Bengaluru is borne by BMRCL. In contrast, in the case of DMRC, the government of India bears the cost, resulting in operating cost savings.
- **Why was the 2016-17 data used?:** The cost data for FY 2016-17 were used to determine the fare structure for the entire Phase 1, spanning 42.30 km. Therefore, the same data serves as the base data for subsequent fare revisions. The 1st FFC has used the data based on the audited accounts for the period 2023-2024 and submitted its report in December 2024. This will serve as the base data for future fare revisions.
- **Energy costs:** KERC fixes only the base tariff for BMRCL. The company has entered into a contract with KPTCL for a "minimum guaranteed demand" to avoid disturbances due to power shortage. Depending upon the operational requirements, the actual energy drawn from the KPTCL is higher or lower than the minimum demand. Therefore, apart from the base tariff, BMRCL is required to pay the minimum demand charges, fuel surcharge and electricity duty, due to which the actual cost per unit varies from the KERC-fixed tariff and actual tariff paid to KPTCL.
- **Addition of depreciation and debt servicing components:** The formula used to derive the percentage increase requested by the company takes into account only the three elements of O&M costs—staff, energy and maintenance. It does not account for interest and depreciation costs. BMRCL, or any metro rail company in India, not only has to service the interest and repayment of the external loan but also requires funds to meet the replacement of assets (depreciation).
- **Foreign debt hedging and cost audits:** BMRCL obtains loans from external funding agencies through the Government of India, which are passed on to BMRCL on a back-to-back basis. However, BMRCL's obligation is to repay it in Indian rupees along with exchange rate variation. The loan tenure is 20-30 years. The company cannot hedge the exchange rate variation because 1) no hedging company shall hedge for more than two years. 2) The cost of hedging is high, which, along with interest rate variations over the loan tenure, makes the loan costlier than domestic borrowing. No metro rail company, including DMRC, has hedged foreign currency variations.
- **Objections on auditing:** The cost audit for the metro rail industry has not been mandated under the Companies Act, 2013. Having said that, the cost data available in the audited annual statements of the company has been accounted for in a very transparent manner.
- **Comparison to other metros:** BMRCL contested the view that Bengaluru's fares are the highest nationwide, citing Indore Metro's maximum fare structure (Rs 80 for 18+ km, Rs 20 for a distance of 1-2 km) and arguing that fare levels must be contextualised with operational spans and costs.

METRO FARE HIKE: 10 FACTS

1. BMRCL hiked its fares in Feb 2025, the first since June 2017.
2. The hike was based on the recommendations of its first Fare Fixation Committee (FFC), headed by retired High Court judge Justice R Tharani. The report, filed in Dec 2024, was binding on BMRCL in toto.
3. On some routes, the hike was as much as 100%.
4. Following public backlash, BMRCL recalibrated the fares, limiting the maximum hike to 71.43%. It did so by tweaking some 600 out of the 4,624 fare combinations or matrices. It calculated the distance between two stations as 1 km, regardless of the actual distance.
5. Even after the recalibration, there was no change in the number of fare zones (10) or the average hike recommended by the FFC.
6. However, public frustration persisted. Calls grew for the FFC report to be made public.
7. On Sept 11, BMRCL published the FFC report.

Commuters use the Automatic Fare Collection (AFC) gates at the Green line metro train at Rashtriya Vidyalaya Metro Station in Bengaluru.

8. As per the report, BMRCL had sought a 105.15% hike, citing increased O&M, salary and energy costs.
9. However, the FFC recommended an average hike of 51.55% before discounts, or 46.39% after discounts, on Sundays, public holidays, and off-peak hours.
10. The FFC has also recommended hiking the fares by up to 5% annually. Accordingly, BMRCL is set to increase the fares in Feb 2026.

(With inputs from Muthiur Rahaman Siddqui)

Feedback: pointblank@ deccanherald.co.in

METRO

Drug peddler gets 3 years in jail, Rs 50K fine

BENGALURU, DHNS: A special court in Bengaluru has sentenced a man to three years' imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 on him for illegally selling ganja (cannabis), an illicit drug.

Samuel alias Sham was found guilty of violating the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act by the 33rd Special Court on September 23. He is currently lodged in the Bengaluru Central Prison. The case dates back to December 9, 2021, when police personnel from the Adugodi police station were conducting routine patrol duties. Acting on information, the team apprehended Samuel, who had come to the area to sell the drug.

During the operation, police seized 5.9 kg of ganja from his possession. A case was immediately registered under the NDPS Act.

BMS College holds graduation ceremony

BENGALURU, DHNS: BMS College of Commerce and Management (BMSCCM) organised its fifth graduation ceremony at the Four Seasons Hotel on September 22.

The event honoured 267 undergraduate students and 40 executive management students.

Aviram Sharma, Chairman of BMSCCM, presided over the event. Chief guest Justice Santosh Hegde urged the graduating students to value learning and time over monetary gains.

Pankaj Choudhary, the college principal, awarded four gold medals, five silver medals and 28 Merit Endowment Prizes during the ceremony.

The event was also attended by B S Ragini Narayan, Donor Trustee and Member Secretary of BMSET, and Sreekumar B, Vice President–HR at Victoria's Secret, among others.

BMS College of Commerce and Management recently held its fifth graduation ceremony.

Hundreds rally for Palestine at Freedom Park on Friday. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Protesters stand in solidarity with Gaza

BENGALURU, DHNS: A protest in support of Palestine was held at Freedom Park on Friday, with over 250 people gathering to express solidarity with the people of Gaza.

Demonstrators condemned what they described as the "US- and Israel-led genocide" that has killed more than 65,000 Palestinians in the past two years. They also highlighted the blockade of food and aid that has pushed Gaza into Stage 5 famine. The protest was organised by Bengaluru for Justice and Peace (BfJP), along with groups such as the All India Students' Association.

Two-day Dasara Utsava in Sahakaranagara begins today

BENGALURU, DHNS: Dasara Utsava, a two-day cultural festival, will be held on Saturday and Sunday at Sahakaranagara Grounds. The event is being organised by the team of Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, in association with *Prajavani* and *Deccan Herald*.

The festival will feature exhibitions, music concerts, Yakshagana, Dandiya, folk arts, stalls, competitions, and cultural performances.

Saturday's programmes include Lalitha Sahasranama and Chamundeshwari Pooja, devotional singing, a Navarasa Shakti dance drama, and Dandiya night. On Sunday, the schedule includes folk and cultural shows, a Bharatanatyam recital by Nrityoma Academy, a puppet show, and the Yakshagana play Seethapaharana by national award-winning artiste Keremane Shivananda Hegde and troupe.

Rajputs in city gear up for Dasara

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Rajput community in Bengaluru is celebrating Dasara in a big way.

A large number of Rajputs have made Bengaluru and Karnataka their home for generations. They speak Hindi at home but have also mastered Kannada.

On Ashtami, which falls on September 29, the Rajput Sabha will install a large idol of Durga, revered as the goddess of the Rajput race, at Rajput Bhavan in Vasanthnagar. The immersion of the idol will take place on October 2, according to the organisers.

Man booked for creating fake documents to grab NICE land

BENGALURU, DHNS

Byadarahalli police have registered a case against a person for creating fake land documents, including a General Power of Attorney and a sale agreement, to illegally claim ownership of a plot of land handed over to the Bangalore Mysore Infrastructure Project (BMICP).

The case was registered against K V Chandran and others on Thursday following a complaint from officials of Nandi Economic Corridor Enterprises (NICE). The complaint alleges that Chandran and his associates forged documents to stake a claim on four acres of land in survey number 86 (new survey number 144) at Kodigehalli village, Yeshwantpur hobli, Bengaluru North taluk.

According to the FIR filed on September 11, the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) had handed over 79 acres and 7 guntas of land in survey number 86 to NICE in 2000 as part of the BMICP, issuing an official possession certificate. However, on July 12, 2023, Chandran and his accomplices allegedly prepared a GPA and sale agreement for a portion of this land.

To create the fake documents, they allegedly fabricated an Aadhaar card for Chandran with a date of birth of June 7, 1934. This date differed from the one recorded in official documents submitted by Chandran to Karnataka Bank, Herohalli branch, which lists his date of birth as June 7, 1957, as per his Aadhaar and PAN cards.

During a preliminary investigation, police found that Chandran was involved in the offence. The Byadarahalli police are currently investigating the matter.

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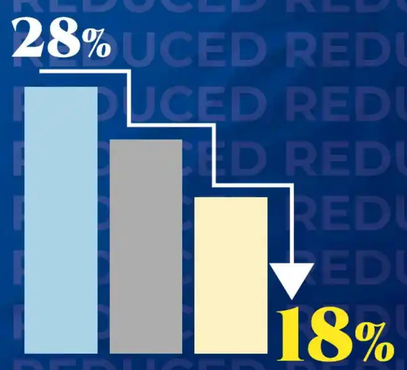

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Building tilts in Jakkasandra, sparks panic among residents

City corporation confirms property is illegal

BENGALURU, DHNS

Fear gripped residents of Jakkasandra on Friday after a five-storey under-construction building began to tilt.

The building was being constructed on a 750-sq ft plot and did not comply with bylaws, sources said.

The Bengaluru South City Corporation confirmed that the building was an illegal structure and had been served multiple notices for evacuation and demolition.

A view of the five-storey tilted structure in Jakkasandra.

"We identified that the building was illegal during our inspection. The first notice was served in August 2024. Since the owner did not respond, we sent out another show-cause notice," a senior corporation official told *DH*.

In September 2024, the building owner reportedly sought time to evacuate and promised to demolish the structure without causing inconvenience to neighbours.

"Since they agreed to demolish the building, we did not take up the demolition exercise. However, it was later noticed that the owner had resumed construction and had taken up electrical and plumbing works. We warned them orally several times and issued another notice in July 2025," the official added.

Responding to the notices, the owner again sought time and began evacuating in September, according to officials.

In a statement, the corporation said it would keep watch on the building to ensure that it is demolished soon and in a safe manner.

Big turnout in East B'luru for Cauvery water scheme against tanker mafia

BENGALURU, DHNS

Since the launch of Sanchari Cauvery by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) in May, the East Zone has recorded the highest number of bulk bookings.

The state government initiative, aimed at delivering clean and affordable Cauvery water to residents, was launched earlier this year with the objective of dismantling the water tanker mafia.

Between May 9 and September 19, the East Zone saw the highest bookings at 7,680, of which 3,263 were bulk bookings, according to data shared by the BWSSB. Localities such as KR Puram, Whitefield and Sarjapur Road accounted for the majority of the bookings.

"This is the part of the city that has remained water-crunched, and we wanted to solve this problem through Sanchari Cauvery. Ever since the project was launched, the East Zone has seen high bulk bookings due to the high density of population and large number of apartment complexes," said BWSSB Chairman V Ram Prasath Manohar.

To provide drinking water to these localities in a sustained manner, the BWSSB has issued long-term contracts for bulk orders, lasting up to one year. Overall, the organisation has collected over Rs 1.67 crore through the initiative.

"While the initiative is performing really well, we are also encouraging them to get Cauvery water connections. It's an ongoing outreach project," added Manohar.

The South Zone recorded the second-highest number of bookings, at 5,099, of which 2,276 were bulk orders — covering areas like Padmanabhanagar, ISRO Layout, Banashankari, Jayanagar and Tilaknagar. The North Zone followed with 2,738 total orders, and the West Zone with 938. Overall, the West Zone saw only 178 bulk bookings, while the North recorded 1,390 bulk bookings.

20 vehicles vandalised in coordinated attack

BENGALURU, DHNS: Over 20 vehicles parked on roadsides across localities in western Bengaluru were vandalised in a coordinated attack, police said.

Police have launched a search operation for the miscreants responsible for the damage.

Vehicles parked along roads and in parking lots in Byadarahalli were targeted. A total of 15 cars and one bicycle were severely damaged using weapons. Following complaints from vehicle owners, a case was registered at the Byadarahalli police station.

The spree continued on Magadi Road, where the miscreants stopped and threatened the driver of a milk van resting inside the parked vehicle. A separate case regarding this incident was registered at the Madanayakanahalli police station.

Police teams from Byadarahalli and Madanayakanahalli are working together to trace the culprits. They suspect individuals under the influence of alcohol may have committed the acts and are reviewing security footage to identify and apprehend the suspects.

Shop owner, aide arrested for kicking woman accused of theft

BENGALURU, DHNS: The City Market police have arrested a saree shop owner and his employee for brutally assaulting a woman suspected of theft.

The arrests follow an incident that occurred in front of the shop on Avenue Road in Chickpet earlier this week.

Umedaram, owner of Maya Silk and Sarees, and his employee, Mahendra Sirvi, were taken into custody on Thursday. Both were subsequently remanded in judicial custody.

On September 21, Umedaram lodged a police complaint through the '112' emergency service, alleging that a woman was caught stealing a bundle of 50 sarees kept outside his shop.

Following the complaint, Hoysala police staff rushed to the spot. The woman, Hampamma, 55, of Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh, was arrested and the stolen property was confiscated.

She was booked under Section 303(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which pertains to theft, and was later remanded in judicial custody.

However, the police later received information indicating that, prior to the woman's arrest, Umedaram and Mahendra Sirvi had allegedly assaulted her by kicking her and pulling her hair.

The police filed a suo motu case against the shop owner and his assistant, leading to their arrest four days later. Both men are now in judicial custody.

The Bengaluru City Police (BCP) said in an X post: "No excuse, no escape! We will not tolerate those who take the law into their own hands. Strict legal action is assured for those who harm women's dignity! Bengaluru City Police will immediately take appropriate legal action."

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

DASARA FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICES

Indian Railways has notified to run following special express trains to clear the extra rush of passengers in view of the Dasara Festival. For more information, passengers are advised to visit the official website of **https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in** or dial **139.**

Sl.No.	Train No.	From	To	Trips	Day of Service	Notified Period
1	07379	Hubballi	SMVT Bengaluru	01	Tue	30.09.2025
2	06277	SMVT Bengaluru	Vijayapura	01	Tue	30.09.2025
3	06278	Vijayapura	SMVT Bengaluru	01	Wed	01.10.2025
4	06279	SMVT Bengaluru	Vijayapura	01	Thu	02.10.2025
5	06280	Vijayapura	SMVT Bengaluru	01	Fri	03.10.2025
6	06271	SMVT Bengaluru	Belagavi	01	Tue	30.09.2025
7	06272	Belagavi	Mysuru	01	Wed	01.10.2025
8	06273	Mysuru	Belagavi	01	Thu	02.10.2025
9	06274	Belagavi	SMVT Bengaluru	01	Fri	03.10.2025
10	06275	SMVT Bengaluru	Belagavi	01	Sat	04.10.2025
11	06276	Belagavi	SMVT Bengaluru	01	Sun	05.10.2025
12	06291	SMVT Bengaluru	Bidar	01	Tue	30.09.2025
13	06292	Bidar	SMVT Bengaluru	01	Wed	01.10.2025
14	06249	SMVT Bengaluru	Madgaon	01	Tue	30.09.2025
15	06250	Madgaon	SMVT Bengaluru	01	Wed	01.10.2025
16	06587	Yesvantpur	Talguppa	03	Fri	29.09.25, 26.09.25, 03.10.25
17	06588	Talguppa	Yesvantpur	03	Sat	29.09.25, 26.09.25, 03.10.25
18	06284	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	06	Sat to Thu	27.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
19	06285	KSR Bengaluru	Ashokapuram	06	Sat to Thu	27.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
20	06286	Ashokapuram	KSR Bengaluru	06	Sat to Thu	27.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
21	06287	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	06	Sat to Thu	27.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
22	06288	Mysuru	SMVT Bengaluru	06	Sat to Thu	27.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
23	06289	Mysuru	Chamarajnagar	07	Sat to Fri	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
24	06290	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	07	Sat to Fri	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
25	06293	Mysuru	Chamarjanagar	01	Thu	02.10.2025
26	06294	Chamarajagar	Mysuru	01	Thu	02.10.2025
27	06295	Arsikere Jn.	Mysuru	06	Sat to Thu	27.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
28	06296	Mysuru	Arsikere Jn.	06	Sat to Thu	27.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
29	07339	Hubballi - KSR Bengaluru	KSR Bengaluru - Chamarajanagar	08	Sun to Sun	28.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
30	07340	Chamarajanagar - KSR Bengaluru	KSR Bengaluru - Hubballi	08	Mon to Mon	29.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
31	06523	SMVT Bengaluru	Trivandrum North	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
32	06524	Trivandrum North	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Tue	23.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
33	06547	SMVT Bengaluru	Trivandrum North	03	Wed	17.09.2025 to 01.10.2025
34	06548	Trivandrum North	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Thu	18.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
35	06555	SMVT Bengaluru	Trivandrum North	03	Fri	19.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
36	06556	Trivandrum North	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Sun	20.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
37	06539	SMVT Bengaluru	Bidar	06	Fri & Sun	19.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
38	06540	Bidar	SMVT Bengaluru	06	Sat & Mon	20.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
39	07315	Hubballi	Muzaffarpur	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
40	07316	Muzaffarpur	Hubballi	03	Thu	25.09.2025 to 09.10.2025
41	06211	Mysuru	Dharbhanga Jn.	03	Tue	23.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
42	06212	Dharbhanga Jn.	Mysuru	03	Sat	27.09.2025 to 08.10.2025
43	07311	Vasco-da-Gama	Muzaffarpur	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
44	07312	Muzaffarpur	Vasco-da-Gama	03	Thu	25.09.2025 to 09.10.2025
45	06529	SMVT Bengaluru	Gomati Nagar	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
46	06530	Gomati Nagar	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Fri	26.09.2025 to 10.10.2025
47	06563	Yesvantpur	Dhanbad Jn.	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
48	06564	Dhanbad Jn.	Yesvantpur	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
49	06281	Mysuru	Ajmer Jn.	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
50	06282	Ajmer Jn.	Mysuru	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
51	06559	SMVT Bengaluru	Narangi	03	Tue	16.09.2025 to 30.09.2025
52	06560	Narangi	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
53	06597	Yesvantpur	Yog Nagari Rishikesh	03	Thu	18.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
54	06598	Yog Nagari Rishikesh	Yesvantpur	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
55	07357	Hubballi	Raxaul Jn.	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
56	07358	Raxaul Jn.	Hubballi	03	Tue	23.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
57	07359	Hubballi	Bagalkot	03	Sun	21.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
58	07360	Bagalkot	Hubballi	03	Tue	23.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
59	06237	Mysuru	Ramanathapuram	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
60	06238	Ramanathapuram	Mysuru	03	Tue	23.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
61	06239	Mysuru	Tirunelveli Jn.	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
62	06240	Tirunelveli Jn.	Mysuru	03	Tue	23.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
63	06243	Mysuru	Karaikudi Jn.	06	Thu & Sat	18.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
64	06244	Karaikudi Jn.	Mysuru	06	Fri & Sun	19.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
65	07355	Hubballi	Ramanathapuram	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
66	07356	Ramanathapuram	Hubballi	03	Sun	21.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
67	07339	Hubballi	KSR Bengaluru	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
68	07340	KSR Bengaluru	Hubballi	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
69	06545	Yesvantpur	Vijayapura	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
70	06546	Vijayapura	Yesvantpur	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
71	07329	Hubballi	Vijayapura	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
72	07330	Vijayapura	Hubballi	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
73	06509	KSR Bengaluru	Danapur	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
74	06510	Danapur	KSR Bengaluru	03	Wed	24.09.2025 to 08.10.2025
75	06919	Hubballi	Vijayapura	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
76	06220	Vijayapura	Hubballi	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
77	06517	Yesvantpur	Hindupur	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
78	06518	Hindupur	Yesvantpur	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
79	07301	Belagavi	Miraj Jn.	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
80	07302	Miraj Jn.	Belagavi	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
81	07303	Belagavi	Miraj Jn.	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
82	07304	Miraj Jn.	Belagavi	07	Daily	27.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
83	07363	Hubballi	Yog Nagari Rishikesh	03	Mon	22.09.2025 & 06.10.2025
84	07364	Yog Nagari Rishikesh	Hubballi	03	Thu	25.09.2025 & 09.10.2025
85	02811	Bhubaneshwar	Yesvantpur	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
86	02812	Yesvantpur	Bhubaneshwar	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
87	07153	Narasapur	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Fri	19.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
88	07154	SMVT Bengaluru	Narasapur	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
89	05074	Lal Kuan	KSR Bengaluru	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
90	05073	KSR Bengaluru	Lal Kuan	03	Tue	23.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
91	03251	Danapur	SMVT Bengaluru	06	Sun, Mon	21.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
92	03252	SMVT Bengaluru	Danapur	06	Tue, Wed	23.09.2025 to 08.10.2025
93	03259	Danapur	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Tue	23.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
94	03260	SMVT Bengaluru	Danapur	03	Thu	25.09.2025 to 09.10.2025
95	02863	Santragachi Jn.	Yesvantpur	03	Thu	18.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
96	02864	Yesvantpur	Santragachi Jn.	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
97	05952	New Tinsukia Jn.	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Thu	18.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
98	05951	SMVT Bengaluru	New Tinsukia Jn.	03	Sun	21.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
99	08581	Visakhapatna	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Sun	21.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
100	08582	SMVT Bengaluru	Visakhapatnam	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
101	07033	Narasapur	Mysuru	06	Mon & Fri	19.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
102	07034	Mysuru	Narasapur	06	Mon & Sat	20.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
103	04131	Kanpur Central	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Sun	21.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
104	04132	SMVT Bengaluru	Kanpur Central	03	Wed	24.09.2025 to 08.10.2025
105	03245	Danapur	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Wed	24.09.2025 to 08.10.2025
106	03246	SMVT Bengaluru	Danapur	03	Fri	26.09.2025 to 03.10.2025
107	08261	Bilaspur Jn.	Yelahanka	03	Tue	23.09.2025 to 07.10.2025
108	08262	Yelahanka	Bilaspur Jn.	03	Wed	24.09.2025 to 08.10.2025
109	06103	Tirunelveli Jn.	Shivamogga Town	03	Sun	21.09.2025 to 05.10.2025
110	06104	Shivamogga Town	Tirunelveli Jn.	03	Mon	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
111	03241	Danapur	SMVT Bengaluru	06	Fri & Sat	19.09.2025 to 04.10.2025
112	03242	SMVT Bengaluru	Danapur	06	Sun & Mon	21.09.2025 to 06.10.2025
113	03247	Danapur	SMVT Bengaluru	03	Thu	18.09.2025 to 02.10.2025
114	03248	SMVT Bengaluru	Danapur	03	Sat	20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025

PUB/511/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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DEFENCE INSTITUTE OF BIODEFENCE TECHNOLOGIES (DIBT)
Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)
(Ministry of Defence, Govt of India)
Siddarthanagar, Mysore - 570011

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF DRDO RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (RA) & JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (JRF)

Defence Institute of Biodefence Technologies (DIBT), Mysore under the aegis of Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), Ministry of Defence, Govt of India. DIBT, Mysore is having the charter of duties of developing detection technologies for food borne pathogens and toxins of Biodefence importance as well as Military Nutrition. DIBT, Mysore invites applications from young, talented, and motivated Indian Nationals with requisite qualifications, who desire to pursue Defence related research as Research Associate (RA) and Junior Research Fellows (JRF).

SL. No.	DRDO Fellowship	Name of the Post	No. of Vacancies	Essential Qualification
1.	Food Science & Technology / Food Processing Engineering/ Food Engineering & Technology / Food Engineering	Research Associate	01	PhD in Food Science & Technology/ Food Processing Engineering/ Food Engineering & Technology/Food Engineering **OR** M.Tech in Food Processing Engineering/Food Engineering & Technology / Food Engineering/Food Science & Technology with 3 years of Research experience with at least one research paper in Science Citation Indexed (SCI) Journal.
2.	Microbiology/Biotechnology/ Biochemistry / Bioinformatics/ Medical Genetics	JRF	07	Post Graduate degree in first Division from recognized University/Institute with valid NET/GATE score. **OR** Post Graduate degree in professional course (M.Tech) in first Division
3.	Polymer Science & Technology / Polymer Science/ Polymer Chemistry /Chemistry	JRF	02	Graduate degree in professional course (B.E / B Tech) in first Division with valid NET/GATE score. **OR** Post Graduate degree in professional course (M Tech) in first Division **OR** Post Graduate degree in MSc first Division from recognized University/ Institute with valid NET/GATE score.
4.	Food Science & Technology /Food Technology / Food Science / Food Process Engineering/ Food Science & Nutrition	JRF	01	Post Graduate degree in first Division from recognized University/ Institute with valid NET/GATE score. **OR** Post Graduate degree in professional course (M.Tech) in first Division

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (RA)

- Monthly stipend is Rs. 67,000/- + HRA per month.
- The tenure of the Research Associate will be for a period of two years.
- Age not exceeding 35 years for RA as on the date of interview. Age relaxation is allowed up to 5 years for SC/ST and 3 Years for OBC candidates.

JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW (JRF)

- Monthly stipend is Rs.37,000/- + HRA per month.
- The tenure of the fellowship will be initially for a period of two years and based on performance, it may be extended for 3rd year and 4th Year if required
- Age not exceeding 28 years for JRF as on the date of interview. Age relaxation is allowed up to 5 years for SC/ST and 3 Years for OBC candidates.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- The award of RA/JRF will be as per DRDO rules. The offer of fellowship does not confer on fellows any right for absorption in DRDO. Admission shall not be claimed by any candidates as a matter of right.
- Only Candidates possessing the above mentioned qualification(s) from recognized University / Institute may apply.
- Application form with supporting documents to be submitted to the Centre Head, DIBT, Siddarthanagar, Mysore-570011.
- Candidates must present original certificates and testimonials at the time of the interview. Additionally, candidates should bring a photocopy set of all documents along with application form and a valid government-issued ID card (such as Aadhar, Passport, or Driving License) during the interview.
- Candidates presently employed in Government Department/ PSU's/Autonomous Bodies should send their application through proper channel and are required to produce NOC from their employer at the time of interview.
- A written test consisting of objective type, multiple choice questions will be conducted to shortlist the candidates for interview, if necessary.
- Based on the performance of candidates in the interview, a panel of selected candidates will be prepared for the available vacancies and future anticipated vacancies. The panel would operate for a period of one year from the date of interview. Decision of Centre Head, DIBT, Mysore will be the final in case of any discrepancy.
- The last date for receipt of applications is 30 days from the date of publication of advertisement.
- No TA/DA will be paid to candidates for attending interview or for joining, if selected.

Head, HRD
for Centre Head, DIBT, Mysore

APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (RA)/ JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW (JRF)

POST APPLIED FOR_____

SUBJECT (SPECIALISATION)_____

1 Name in block letters
2 Father's / Husband's name
3 Marital Status Single / Married
4 Nationality
5 Category: SC/ST/OBC/PH/Gen
6 Date of Birth
7 Age Years: Months: Days:
8 Address for correspondence
9 Phone / Mobile No.
10 Email ID
11 Permanent address

Photo

12 Education qualification (from SSLC/Metric onwards. Self-attested copies to be enclosed)

Exam Passed	Subject (s)	University / Board	Year of passing	% Marks	Division / Class

13. Experience

Name of Organisation	Period of Services		Reasons for leaving
	From	To	

14	Whether qualified in NET / GATE (JRF) Examination (if yes, give details proof to be enclosed)		
15	Have you ever been interviewed in any DRDO Labs, if so give details		
16	Any other information		

Declaration:

I here by declare that to the best of my knowledge, the above furnished particulars are correct and no information is suppressed.

Place:

Date: **Signature of the candidates**

List of enclosures:

CBC 10301/11/0103/2526

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

Walkathon: World Alzheimer's Month by Lions International District; Freedom Park to Vidhana Soudha; 6.45 am onwards.

Seminar: 'State Higher Education Policy' by Shivakanthamma Nayak, NM Nagaraj, Sumati BS, Rudresh HS, S Chandrashekar Shetty; Wonderla; 9 am onwards.

CULTURAL

Exhibition: Dasara Dolls; Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan; 11 am onwards.

Vocal concert: BS Suhas, Achyutha Rao on violin and BS Samarth on mridanga; Sri Rama Lalitha Kala Mandira; 5.30 pm.

Kappanna Angala Decennial Celebration: 'Folk Mother Root of All Arts'; Savitakka, Srinivasa G Kappanna; Kappanna Angala, JP Nagar 1st Phase; 6.30 pm.

Play: 'Annana Nenapu' based on KP Poornachandra Tejaswi's work; directed by Hanu Ramasanjeev; Kalagrama Cultural Complex, Mallathahalli; 7 pm.

Play: TP Kailasam's 'Huttadalli Hutta' by Archana Shyam; Antaranga; Dr C Ashwath Kala Bhavana, Basavanagudi; 7.15 pm.

RELIGIOUS

Discourse: 'The principle of Lakshmi in Srinivasa Kalyana' by Ambarishacharya; Raghavendra Swamy Math, Rajarajeshwari Nagar; 6 pm.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST
Generally cloudy sky with moderate rain

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	27.9°C
Minimum	20.2°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	73%
Sunset (Sept 27)	6:13 pm
Sunrise (Sept 28)	6:09 am
Moonrise	9:32 am
Moonset	9:07 pm

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

Ramalinga Reddy blames BJP legislators for city's poor roads

BENGALURU, DHNS

Minister for Transport Ramalinga Reddy on Friday placed the blame for Bengaluru's pothole-riddled roads at the feet of the city's BJP legislators.

"I am not saying 'there are no potholes'. But BJP legislators who were given huge funds for fixing the roads in 2019 did not construct quality roads, nor did they maintain existing ones," Reddy told reporters during a media interaction in Bengaluru.

BJP legislators in Bengaluru cumulatively received Rs 6,116.73 crore under the Nava Nagarothana Scheme in 2019 against Rs 740 crore that Congress MLAs received, said Reddy. "But the ministers and MLAs representing Assembly constituencies in Bengaluru presided over sub-standard work, which is why we have potholes on the roads today," the minister added.

Ramalinga Reddy

Responding to the BJP's symbolic protest – filling up potholes on Bengaluru's roads – Reddy said, "They have filled potholes in front of Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar's house and in other areas. I suggest they use stone aggregate instead of using only mud."

Daring both incumbent and former BJP legislators from Bengaluru to inform the public how they had spent the money allocated for development and repair of roads, he added, "Once a road is built, it should last at least 10 years. If potholes appear on the road, the rule stipulates that the contractor must undertake maintenance work for three years. But this rule was not followed during BJP's rule."

There was no permanent solution to the problem of potholes, said Reddy. "When it rains, potholes are bound to appear. The CM has himself held a meeting and instructed officials to ensure potholes are filled in a month's time. The Deputy CM is constantly monitoring the task. Work is under way on underground drains, electric lines, on the roads as well," said the minister.

Reminding the BJP that 17 two-wheelers had died after stumbling on potholes in Bengaluru during its tenure, Reddy added, "We held a protest then. The Chief Justice of Karnataka summoned the BBMP Commissioner to court and sought information on what the civic body was doing to fill the potholes. But no such thing has happened under our rule. We have taken swift action."

'PM should pass a law'

On the Vishwa Hindu Parishad's petition to the Governor urging him to free Hindu temples from the control of the Muzrai Department, Reddy said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi should enact a law, applicable nation-wide, freeing Hindu temples from the Muzrai Department. Instead of protesting, the VHP must request the PM. If such a law is enacted, these issues will not arise."

3 'worst' roads in East Bengaluru go under repair

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bengaluru East City Corporation has finally taken up the repair of three roads that had been in a dilapidated condition for years.

These stretches are Panathur Road, Balagere Main Road and Vibgyor School Road.

While the corporation has asphalted two roads, it has taken up white-topping on Balagere Main Road. Residents of the area have long raised concerns about the poor condition of these stretches, which also lack proper roadside drains.

Clement Jayakumar, a member of the Mahadevapura Taskforce collective, said additional grants were needed to asphalt many damaged stretches in Mahadevapura.

Freshly laid asphalt on Panathur Road.

He noted that no grants had been provided for Munnekolala and the 150-foot CDP roads. "So far, the corporation has asphalted Panathur Road from the ORR to the railway underpass and is white-topping Balagere Road. To ease congestion, these roads need to be widened up to Varthur," he said.

The quality of asphalting on Panathur Road has also come under the scanner, with gaps in the paved surface indicating incorrect gradation of asphalt.

Vehicle users fear that the roadwork may not last long.

Casagrand redefines Bengaluru's skyline with Casagrand Estancia

In a city that thrives on ambition and elegance, Casagrand, one of the leading real estate developers in India, brings a new definition of luxury living with Casagrand Estancia at Kogilu. Designed as a destination of luxury, scale and architectural finesse, this premium residential community houses 429 finely-crafted three and four BHK apartments rising across B+G+13 floors, envisioned to raise the bar of modern living.

Sprawled across 7.32 acres of lush landscapes, this prestigious project offers a supreme lifestyle with over 70 premium indoor and outdoor amenities and is set to be one of north Bengaluru's most coveted addresses, starting at just Rs 1.25 crores.

A grand entrance arch, contemporary facades, landscaped courtyards and tree-lined pathways welcome residents into a world of sophistication. At the heart of the community is a 22,500 sqft multi-storeyed clubhouse, complemented with a 11,500 sqft swimming pool complex. An aqua gym, Jacuzzi, children's pool, rain-dance deck and poolside party lawns are part of the complex.

The project is a community for all generations. Children have climbing walls, skating rinks, sandpits, trampolines and interactive play zones. Sports enthusiasts can enjoy pickleball, cricket, volleyball and multi-purpose play areas. Adults and seniors have meditation pavilions, yoga lawns, reflexology walkways and social gathering spaces that encourage well-being.

Additional amenities, including rooftop sky cinemas, co-working spaces, amphitheaters, cycling tracks, outdoor gyms and senior-friendly plazas, provide diverse opportunities for recreation and community interaction.

DH Casagrand

Sathish C G, Deputy Managing Director, Casagrand, said, "With Casagrand Estancia, Casagrand is shaping the future of modern living in the Silicon Valley. Strategically located in Kogilu, a rapidly-evolving neighbourhood with excellent connectivity, the project offers residents a unique opportunity to be part of a vibrant, forward-looking community. Casagrand Estancia balances comfort and functionality, creating spaces that feel bright and welcoming. The development fosters a sense of connection and well-being among residents, offering thoughtfully-planned amenities and shared spaces that encourage interaction. Living at Casagrand Estancia combines the advantages of a growing, well-connected location with the assurance of a thoughtfully-crafted home".

Casagrand Estancia offers residents seamless access to top schools, IT and tech parks, and bustling commercial hubs while being surrounded by lush landscaped gardens. Travel is effortless with Kempegowda International Airport just 20 km away, Yelahanka Railway Station only 3.50 km from the community and upcoming Kogilu Metro station within a short stroll.

At Casagrand Estancia, the dynamic energy of Bengaluru merges effortlessly with serene natural surroundings.

The project is registered under Karnataka RERA, RERA No PRM/KA/RERA/1251/472/PR/110925/008086 www.rera.karnataka.gov.in

Curated by DH Brandspot

सीडैक CDAC
प्रगत संगणन विकास केंद्र
CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED COMPUTING
ADVT No. Pune /Consultant/02/2025

Centre for Development of Advanced computing(C-DAC), a premier Scientific Society of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India is engaged in various R&D activities of national importance. Invites online applications from experienced & qualified professional from the following expertise to be engaged in the role of :-

Consultant (Part Time /Full Time)

- Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) System Supported by Implementations on FPGA Technologies
- Domain Expert in PF
- Computational Linguistics
- Technical Helpdesk

Job Location : Delhi/ Pune

How to Apply : Interested candidates may visit **"careers"** page of www.cdac.in for detailed notification and **apply online on or before October 11, 2025 (18:00hrs)**

C-DAC Innovation Park 34, B/1, Panchavati, Pashan, Pune, 411008

Note: Addendum/further communications in this regards, if any will be notified in the C-DAC's website only.

One Vision. One Goal.. Advanced Computing for Human Advancement.
नामुमकिन अब मुमकिन है
cbc06132/12/0018/2526

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
JUIDCO Bhawan, Kutchery Chowk, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand.
Ph No.: +91-651-2225878; e-mail Id-; pdt.juidco@gmail.com
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752

Project Name: Construction of New Nagar Panchayat Office Building at Latehar under Latehar Nagar Panchayat.
NIT No: JUIDCO/NIT/OB LATEHAR/653
PR No.: 353204
Tender ID: 2025_UDD_101303_1

Tender Cancellation Notice

All bidders are hereby informed that tender having details as mentioned above regarding the project **"Construction of New Nagar Panchayat Office Building at Latehar under Latehar Nagar Panchayat"** has been cancelled as single responsive bid was received.

The bidders are requested to kindly wait for future communication regarding the tender.

Sd/-
Project Director (Technical)
JUIDCO Ltd., Ranchi

PR 363014 (Urban Development and Housing)25-26*D

S. E. RAILWAY – E-TENDER

Tender Notice No.: PCMM/GENL/TP/2025/36, dated 26.09.2025. Open e-Tenders for "E" Procurement system are invited by Principal Chief Materials Manager, S.E.Railway, Headquarters Office (5th Floor), New Administrative Building, 11, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata-700043 for and on behalf of the President of India, which have been uploaded on website **www.ireps.gov.in** as follows. All the tenders will be closed at 14.00 hrs.

Sl.No.	Tender No.	Due Date	Brief Description	Qty.	EMD (in ₹)
1	46253105A	14.11.2025	Contactor for Net 1 & 2 (K01, K02) etc.	624 Nos.	1,43,440/-
2.	47255007A	16.10.2025	Main Transformer 6531kVA type ABB LOT 6500 or etc.	02 Nos.	3,61,550/-
3.	38253346	13.10.2025	Automatic Pressure Modification (APM) device for KNORR BREMSE Design BMBS etc.	708 Nos.	1,85,470/-
4.	38251564	16.10.2025	Modified Elastomeric Pad, Design-A for CASNUB Bogie etc.	140000 Nos.	20,00,000/-
5.	38253942	17.10.2025	Complete Assembly of Flap Door for body covered Wagon type BCNA, BCNAHS etc.	1288 Nos.	1,09,120/-
6.	38253365	30.10.2025	Brake Cylinder 11" with double acting automatic Slack Adjuster and Hand Brake Cable (Escort Make) etc.	179 Nos.	1,22,300/-
7.	60250002	17.10.2025	Manufacture and Supply of Metal Liner for use with ERC MK-III flat toe on concrete sleeper for 60 kg rail etc.	850000 Nos.	3,95,250/-
8.	IE256143	20.10.2025	Supply at site, erection, installation, commissioning and testing of 100HP/ 75KW HSCF Pump Motor Set etc.	02 Set.	1,06,200/-
9.	25253564A	17.10.2025	Finger Contact and Flexible Shunt assembly etc.	710 Nos.	1,24,030/-

Interested tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/ description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. **N.B.** : Prospective Bidders may regularly visit **www.ireps.gov.in** to participate in all other tenders & any corrigendum published thereafter. **(PR-673)**

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE III ADDL. DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE KOLAR (SITTING AT KGF)
R.A. No. 26/2024
BETWEEN: C. YADAVAN ... APPELLANT
-V/s-
AND: Bharath Gold Mines Ltd and 3 others ... **RESPONDENTS**
RESPONDENT No.3: Pranin Kumar Sharma, aged about 66 years, DIG Police, CRPF. (Retired) CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110001.

NOTICE

Whereas the above named Appellant has filed Regular Appeal for relief of setting aside the order and Decree passed in O.S. No.50/2016 filed before the Prl. Civil Judge and JMFC, KGF. You being Respondent No.3, Sri. Pravin Kumar Sharma, aged about 66 years, DIG Police, CRPF. (Retired) CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110001, are summoned to appear before this court on **03/11/2025** at **11:00 A.M.** in person or through Advocate/ pleader to answer the questions to the same. Failing which the appeal will be heard and determined as Ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 24/09/2025

By order of the Court, Sheristedar, III Addl. District & Sessions Court, Kolar Sit at Kolar

P. RAGAVAN, Advocate
Raghu Nivas, D V Gundappa Road, Robertsonpet, KGF-563122.

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
E-Tender Notice
Tender Notice No. SUR-N-T-2025-26-17
Date: 24.09.2025

DRM (S&T)`s Office, Central Railway, Solapur for and on behalf of President of India invites online e-tenders on Railway`s e-procurement website www.ireps.gov.in inform the capable, reputed firms/ Contractors for the following works:- **Name of work with its locality** : Provision of Remote Diagnostic and Predictive Maintenance (RDPM) system for monitoring of S&T gears of Kurduwadi-Bhigvan section of Solapur Division. **Tender No.** – SUR-N-T-2025-26-17, **Approximated Cost of the work** - Rs.5,57,69,830.62/-, **Cost of the tender form** - NIL, **Earnest money to be deposited** - Rs. 4,28,900/-, **Completion period of the work** - 12 Months. **Date & Time of Closing of tender**: 16.10.2025. The details are available in IREPS website. Corrigendum/ amendments if any will be uploaded only on above e-procurement website. Only online tenders will be accepted. Manual/ postal/e-mail, FAX, by hand tenders will not be accepted. Bidders are requested to obtain Class III Digital Signature Certificate with company name and register the same with www.ireps.gov.in. The Payment of Earnest Money (EMD) will be accepted through net banking or payment gateway or in the form of Bank Guarantee and the original Bank Guarantee should be delivered in person to the official nominated as indicated in the tender document before closing date for submission of bids (i.e. excluding the last date of submission of bids). For further details please visit www.ireps.gov.in.

Divisional Railway Manager
S&T Branch
SUN 82
DOWNLOAD UTS APP FOR TICKETS

SELCO Foundation
Call for Vendors
SUPPLY OF RMS SYSTEMS TO SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS

SELCO Foundation – Procurement Officer
690, 15th Cross Rd, Jeewan Griha Colony,
2nd Phase, J P Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560078
procurement@selcofoundation.org

SELCO Foundation hereby invites bids for Scaling and operationalizing Remote Monitoring System (RMS) deployment and establish a fully functional dashboard to monitor the DRE Solutions at Public Health Facilities across various States of India covering 6,000 Quantity.

The detailed tender document which can be downloaded from 27-09-2025.

https://selcofoundation.org/tender/

Bids, as per the terms and conditions herein should be submitted preferably through the online form (E-tender)

https://Forms.gle/oG4SjWmFDFAMjs638

or submitted to the undersigned, at the above-mentioned address by 4 pm on or before 10-10-2025.

Chief Executive Officer – SELCO Foundation

SELCO Foundation
CALL FOR VENDORS

SELCO Foundation – Procurement Officer
690, 15th Cross Rd, Jeewan Griha Colony,
2nd Phase, J P Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560078
procurement@selcofoundation.org

TENDER DOCUMENT

SELCO Foundation Hereby Invites Bids for The **Enhancement, Development of Modules of E4H Digital Platform and Maintenance.**

The detailed tender document can be downloaded from 27-09-2025.

https://selcofoundation.org/tender/

Bids, as per the terms and conditions herein should be submitted through the online form (E tender)

https://forms.gle/rgaL6rdXZFs91g5j7

by 5 pm on or before 10-10-2025.

Chief Executive Officer – SELCO Foundation

e-Procurement Cell
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
SPECIAL WORKS DIVISION, BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT, Ranchi
e-Procurement Notice
Tender Reference No:- BCD/EE, Special Works Div, BCD, Ranchi-25/2025-26 Date:-24.09.2025

क्र0 सं0	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	Proposed Construction of Jharkhand Bhawan at Vashi, Navi Mumbai, Maharastra	Rs. 132,06,35,000.00	24 (Twenty Four) Months
i	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि	10.10.2025	
ii	प्री बीड मिटिंग की तिथि	30.10.2025	
iii	प्री बीड मिटिंग का स्थान	**e- Procurement Cell**, Room No 326 A, 3rd Floor, Building Construction Department, Jharkhand Mantralaya, Dhurwa, Ranchi	
iv	बिड प्राप्ति के लिए अन्तिम तिथि/समय	10.11.2025 को अपराह्न 1.00 बजे	
v	निविदा खोलने की तिथि/समय	11.11.2025 को अपराह्न 1.00 बजे	
vi	निविदा प्रकाशित करने वाले कार्यालय का नाम एवं पता	**e- Procurement Cell**, Office of the Executive Engineer Special Works Division Building Construction Department Ranchi	
vii	प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क संख्या	8092415503	
viii	ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाईन संख्या	8092415503	

Note:- Cost of bidding document (Non Refundable) & Bid Security Shall be payable on online through http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in
Any Change can be on Website http://Jharkhandtenders. gov. in
Any Other information can be on Website http:// Jharkhandtenders.gov. in

Nodal Officer,
e-Procurement Cell,
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Special Works Division
Building Construction Department,Ranchi .

PR 362906 Building(25-26).D

EASTERN RAILWAY

e-Tender Notice No. ELS/SDAH/OT/25-005, Dated 24.09.2025. E-tender is invited by the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/EMU/Sealdah, 1st Floor, Control Building, Sealdah, Eastern Railway, Kolkata-700014 for the following works: **Tender No.: ELS/SDAH/OT/25-005, Name of the work**: Provision of composite cylinder Fire Extinguisher (with anti-theft device) 6 kg ABC Powder for EMU/MEMU coaches including supply and installation at Sealdah Division as per scope of work attached". **Tender Value**: Rs. 5,46,23,734/-, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 4,23,100/-. **Cost of Tender document:** Nil, **Completion period:** 06 months. **Date of Closing**: 24.10.2025 at 11.00 hrs. Details of Tender Notice and corrigendum issued from time to time are available at website **www.ireps.gov.in**

SDAH-211/2025-26

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at : @EasternRailway
@easternrailwayheadquarter

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (through https://ireps.gov.in) PUB/1189

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer, Traction Distribution, Secunderabad invites e-tender on behalf of the President of India for the following works in Single packet system of tendering.

Sl. No.: 1, **NIT No:** C/E.29/TRD/SC/47/2025-26, **Name of the work:** Tender No. C/E.29/TRD/SC/47/2025-26 Dt.24.09.2025 "SC Division: Replacement of leaning/critical and less contact wire height OHE structures due to raising of track with new OHE structure in connection with safety in KI-BPQ section.", **Details:- Estimate Cost:** Rs.2,64,71,702.69, **Completion period:** 180 Days, **Date of closing:** 17.10.2025 at 15:00 hrs

Sl. No.: 2, **NIT No:** C/E.29/TRD/SC/48/2025-26, **Name of the work:** Tender No. C/E.29/TRD/SC/48/2025-26 Dt.24.09.2025 "SC Division: Separate Isolation arrangement of Common loops for improvement operational safety in KZJ-WD section.", **Details:- Estimate Cost:** Rs.3,35,81,978.00, **Completion period:** 180 Days, **Date of closing:** 17.10.2025 at 15:00 hrs

Sl. No.: 3, **NIT No:** C/E.29/TRD/SC/49/2025-26, **Name of the work:** SC Division-Provision of Gantry isolation arrangement at Traction Sub-Station and Switching stations over SC division., **Details:- Estimate Cost:** Rs.2,82,97,788.80, **Completion period:** 180 Days, **Date of closing:** 17.10.2025 at 15:00 hrs

1) For bid document and other details, please login to website **http://ireps.gov.in**

2) Tenderers should participate through e-tendering only and no manual offers may be considered.

3) All the prospective tenderers are requested to remit Cost of tender form & EMD through online payments only.

4) All the prospective tenderers are advised to get GSTIN identification Nos. and submit along with their offers.

5) Tenderer should watch for any Corrigenda (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the Tender submission period.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/ TRD, Secunderabad
A1503

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at http://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

THE PRINTERS (MYSORE) PRIVATE LIMITED
Publishers: DECCAN HERALD, PRAJAVANI, SUDHA & MAYURA

We are a leading newspaper and magazine publishing group in Karnataka. We invite applications for the following position in our organisation.

SECRETARY

Work Location : Bengaluru (MG Road)
Qualification : Any Graduate
Experience : 3-5 years

Job description:

- Coordinate Executive communications, including taking calls, responding to emails and interfacing with clients as and when required
- Interact with stakeholders.
- Organize and update schedules
- Travel management
- Calendar management
- Arrange events if required
- Uphold a strict level of confidentiality

To do this, you should:

- Experience in managing travel, calendar, schedules
- Hands on experience in Microsoft suite
- Atleast 3 years of experience in secretarial functions

Assistant Manager-Talent Acquisition
The Printers (Mysore) Private Limited
75, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bengaluru – 560 001
E-mail: neesha.srinivas@printersmysore.co.in

Government of India
Ministry of Science and Technology
Department of Biotechnology
Block-2-3, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road New Delhi - 110003

VACANCY NOTICE

Advt. No. AI-99013/25/2025-AIPSU-DBT

Applications/Nominations are invited for the post of Director / Executive Director on deputation (including short-term contract) basis in each of the following seven (07) institutions of Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (iBRIC). Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC) is an apex autonomous body of Department of Biotechnology (DBT):

- Director, National Brain Research Centre (NBRC) Manesar, Haryana
- Director, National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune, Maharashtra
- Director, Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD), Imphal, Manipur
- Director, National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR), New Delhi
- Director, National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB), Hyderabad, Telangana
- Director, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (RGCB), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- Executive Director, National Agri-Food and Biomanufacturing Institute (NABI), Mohali

Pay Scale : Level-16 in the 7th CPC Pay Matrix with usual allowances as admissible under applicable rules.
Age Limit : Not exceeding 58 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.
Qualification : Ph.D. or M.D. in the fields as mentioned in detailed advertisement
Experience : Minimum 20 years of R&D experience in the field as mentioned in the detailed advertisement.
Last Date : Application form completely filled up must be sent by email at subodh.ram.dbt@nic.in within 30 days from date of publication of the breif advertisement in Employment News.

How to Apply : Detailed advertisement and application form is available at www.dbtindia.gov.in, www.bric.nic.in and websites of all 7 Institutions (www.nbrc.ac.in, www.nccs.res.in, www.ibsd.gov.in, www.nipgr.ac.in, www.niab.res.in, www.rgcb.res.in and www.nabi.res.in). 7 sets of hard copies of application form submitted by email must also be sent through proper channel at the address given below:

Shri Subodh Kumar Ram,
Under Secretary (AIPSU),
Department of Biotechnology,
Room No. 509, 5th Floor, Block-3, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003

CBC 36301/11/0003/2526

Govt mulls new selection process for Rajyotsava Awards

BENGALURU, DHNS: The state government is thinking of doing away with the application-based selection process for the Rajyotsava Awards from this year.

Under the existing system, achievers across domains must submit applications for the award, which are then scrutinised by a selection committee constituted by the Department of Kannada and Culture. But the department is now thinking of tasking the selection committee with choosing the most deserving achievers.

"Each year, we receive 3,000 to 4,000 applications for the Rajyotsava awards. Instead of the achievers applying for the award, the government can take on the responsibility of identifying the achievers," said a source in the department.

The government is likely to constitute the selection committee in a week's time. "Since we are rolling out the new system this year, we will allow interested candidates to apply for the award on SAKALA. But priority will be given to those who don't apply. By choosing achievers without waiting for them to apply, we will be showing them our respect," the source added. Given that the awards will be presented on November 1, the department barely has a month to complete the selection process.

Minister for Kannada and Culture Shivaraj Tangadagi confirmed to *DH* that there were plans to revamp the selection process. "A decision will be taken after a discussion with the Chief Minister," Tangadagi said.

The second-highest civilian honour in Karnataka, the Rajyotsava Award carries a purse of rs 1 lakh, a 20g gold medal, and a citation.

Govt proposes 2% cess on movie tickets, TV channels

Move aims to generate funds for cine workers' welfare

BENGALURU, DHNS

The state government is proposing to levy a 2% cess on movie tickets and television entertainment channels to fund the welfare of cine workers, as per draft rules notified by the labour department.

The draft rules fall under the Karnataka Cine and Cultural Activists (Welfare) Act, which was enacted last year.

Under the Act, the government will create the Karnataka Cine and Cultural Activists Social Security and Welfare Fund. The Act states that a 1-2% cess on movie tickets and subscription fees will be levied to generate funds.

Going by the draft rules, the government has finalised the rate of cess at 2%.

The 2% cess will be applicable "on cinema tickets of all theatres" including multiplexes, the draft rules state. Further, a 2% cess will be charged "on total transaction of television entertainment channels operating in the State of Karnataka."

The government will notify the manner in which the cess will be levied, assessed and collected, the draft rules state. DH FILE PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATION

The government will notify the manner in which the cess will be levied, assessed and collected, the draft rules state.

India's film industry has 2.2 billion ticket buyers and people in Karnataka spend Rs 4 crore to watch movies every year, Labour Minister Santosh Lad told the Assembly last year. Lad had said there were 50,000 people working in the cinema industry. The number will be 70,000 if people working in allied sectors are counted, he added.

According to the draft rules, cine and cultural activists aged 18-60 should register with the government.

Cine and cultural activists include artists (actors, musicians or dancers) and any person carrying out skilled, unskilled, manual supervisory, technical or such activities.

Registered cine workers will receive a slew of benefits: accident benefit, natural death assistance (inclusive of funeral expenses), funds for children's education, maternity aid and pension.

Under the Act, the government will establish a Karnataka Cine and Cultural Activists' Welfare Board headed by the labour minister. The draft rules state that the Board should meet at least once in three months.

Pvt schools' body seeks clarity on new rules for SSLC exams

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Associated Management of Primary and Secondary Schools of Karnataka has demanded clarity on the new rules published for the SSLC examinations 2026.

The school education and literacy department had released a draft of the exam reforms online with CBSE two months ago, but no official order has been issued, prompting the association to seek clarification.

"The draft rules were released two months ago. Stakeholders were asked to send their opinions and suggestions within 15 days. A tentative timetable was also released, but there is no clarity on the final order," said D Shashi Kumar, general secretary of the association, in a letter to School Education and Literacy Minister Madhu Bangarappa. As per the tentative timetable, the SSLC examinations are scheduled to begin on March 18.

It may be recalled that on July 24, the department issued a notification on draft rules proposing changes to the evaluation pattern of the Class 10 exam.

Under the draft, a student must secure 33% of the total marks to pass, instead of the current 35%. Candidates can meet the 33% threshold through a combination of internal assessment and external examination scores. A candidate will be declared passed if he or she secures at least 206 out of a total of 625 marks, including a minimum of 30% in each subject. The total marks for the first language — 125 — will remain unchanged.

STRIKING A CHORD

The Karnataka Police Band performs on the premises of Mysuru Palace on the occasion of Dasara on Friday. DH PHOTO/HAMPA NAGARAJA

BJP Dalit leaders allege misuse of funds in SC/ST coaching scheme

'Contracts awarded to institutes that did not meet eligibility criteria'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Dalit leaders in the BJP including Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Council Chalavadi T Narayanaswamy, M Mahesh Kumar and retired IAS officer B H Anil Kumar, on Friday alleged misappropriation of funds from welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

During a media interaction at the Karnataka BJP office in Bengaluru, the leaders demanded a Lokayukta probe into the utilisation of funds under a scheme launched to provide coaching for competitive examinations for SC/ST aspirants.

"A sum of Rs 112.87 crore was allocated exclusively for the coaching scheme. But the process for selecting institutes that would coach the aspirants was flawed and unscientific. Two institutes – Kabbur Academy and SP Wisdom – were awarded contracts despite not meeting the eligibility criteria. The rules stipulated that the coaching institutes had to have at least five years of experience, and a turnover of Rs 9 crore. But SP Wisdom Academy was registered only in 2022, and neither institute can boast of a turnover of Rs 9 crore. But contracts worth Rs 40 crore were awarded to the institutes," said Mahesh Kumar.

The BJP leader said Dr Abdul Hafeez was the official who supervised the process. Mahesh Kumar also demanded the cancellation of the L1 tendering system, citing poor quality and corruption.

Questioning why the Social Welfare Department was overseeing the scheme, Mahesh Kumar said, "It should have been the Skill Development Department, which has relevant expertise." He also urged the government to establish residential schools for SC/STs in Bengaluru. The BJP leader also took issue with the coaching centre being called 'Indira Gandhi Professional Training Centre'. "Why was it not named after Dr B R Ambedkar," asked Mahesh Kumar.

Meanwhile, Chalavadi said that, of the Rs 42,000 crore earmarked for the welfare of Dalits, only Rs 21,000 crore had been distributed. Alleging that nearly Rs 14,000 crore was diverted to fund the guarantee schemes, Chalavadi said that the Dalits had been cheated.

"The remaining Rs 7,000 crore allotted to the Social Welfare Department was spent on activities such as Democracy Day and Constitution Day, and the Nagmohan Das Commission," said the LoP.

Chalavadi also lamented the switch from the earlier system wherein the government directly paid fees to educational institutions under RTE to the current one wherein parents are reimbursed only after paying the fees. "This policy can deprive education to children from vulnerable communities," he added.

FIRST SCHOOL REUNION AFTER 47 YEARS!

Students of the 1978 batch of Mary Immaculate Girls High School, Shivamogga, had their first reunion in Bengaluru recently.
Front Row Sitting (L to R): **Malathi B. Rao, Kamalleshware, Bhuvana Murali, Usha Venkatesh, Latha Ekkeri Ningappa and Theja Nagesh.**
Center Row Sitting (L to R): **Shalini V, Sharada Nagendrappa, Veena S R, Shyamala Sandhya S Bhat and Padma Subramanya.**
Standing Row (L to R): **Mamatha Nagesh, Bhagyalakshmi D S, Sudha Vishveshwara, Kavitha Venkatesh, Helen Quadros, Shashikala, Manasa Gubbivani, Shyla Devadatha, Praveena Gulvadi, Usha Haranahalli, Ayesha Sultana, Sujatha Tilak Kumar, Sumana Yadalam, Kalpana Srinivas and Nirmala Gowdara.**

Caste census to kick off in Bengaluru on October 3

BENGALURU, DHNS: The socio-educational survey, popularly known as caste census, will kick off in Bengaluru on October 3, officials said on Friday. The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) plans to cover over 52 lakh households in two weeks as it aims to meet the deadline set by the commission.

Other than the staff of the GBA and five corporations, employees in the secretariat will also be among the enumerators, officials said.

The state cabinet has delegated the authority to the chief commissioner of the GBA to take disciplinary action and suspend officers and employees who fail to discharge their duties in connection with the survey.

As per the order, heads of respective departments have been instructed to relieve the appointed officers and employees to enable their participation in the survey work. Orders have also been issued to deploy Group B and Group C officers/employees from government service and govt agencies to conduct survey in Bengaluru.

Taluk hospitals to have gynaecs, anaesthetists and paediatricians 24/7

BENGALURU, DHNS

In order to improve maternal health in Karnataka, the Health and Family Welfare Department on Friday announced that two gynaecologists, two anaesthetists and two paediatricians will be available at all taluk hospitals to ensure quality treatment round the clock.

All taluk hospitals will function as comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care hospitals. Specialists from 230 underperforming Community Health Centers (CHCs) will be deployed to taluk hospitals.

A total of 41 CHCs with average monthly childbirths of 30 or more will continue to have triple specialists.

CHCs located in remote locations of the states such as Male Mahadeshwara Hills, Santhemarahalli, Talakadu and Bannur shall continue to be staffed with specialists.

Staff nurses in primary health centres (PHCs), where there is poor performance because of low number of patients, will be shifted to taluk hospitals and each hospital will be staffed with additional three nurses.

"We are taking all significant steps to strengthen maternal health and reduce maternal mortality in the state," said Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao told a press conference.

According to department data, 32 taluk hospitals record fewer than 30 deliveries a month, 36 hospitals 30-50 deliveries, 49 hospitals 50-100 deliveries, 11 hospitals 100-150 deliveries, nine hospitals 150-200 deliveries and 11 hospitals 200 and more.

Taluk hospitals have vacancies for 11 obstetricians, 21 anaesthetists, 19 paediatricians and 114 radiologists.

Of 274 CHCs, only 114 have obstetricians, 86 aanesthetists, 155 paediatricians.

Lokayukta inspects Kidwai hospital; suo motu case registered

BENGALURU, DHNS: Lokayukta Justice B S Patil on Friday inspected the government-run Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology and found some staff were directing patients to buy medicines from certain outside pharmacies because they were unavailable at the hospital's own medical store.

The inspection also revealed that an IAS officer appointed to supervise the functioning of the hospital visited the facility only once or twice a week.

The Lokayukta ordered the hospital's Director Dr Naveen T to take action against the staff and submit a report.

The Lokayukta inspection came following a complaint from a citizen. A suo motu case was registered to issue a search warrant against the hospital.

Patients at Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, the largest government-run cancer hospital in the state, on Friday.

The team visited the paediatrics department and was informed that three new children visit the hospital daily with various types of cancer. The team was also informed that in the last year and a half, 115 bone marrow transplants were carried out.

It was also noticed that there's a shortage of medical and paramedical staff to treat the patients.

The team found that the regularly prescribed Enzavutamide 160 mg and Exylete tablets were not available in the hospital pharmacy. Officials informed that a tender has been called for a supplier.

Narayanaswamy demands White Paper on state finances

BENGALURU, DHNS: Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Chalavadi T Narayanaswamy on Friday demanded the government to release a White Paper on the state's finances.

Speaking at the BJP state office, Narayanaswamy alleged that that chief minister and his deputy were "carrying begging bowls" to secure funds - even for basic civic works like filling potholes. He cited a letter reportedly written by the CM to industrialist Azim Premji, requesting support from the Premji Foundation for Bengaluru's pothole problem, calling it an "eye-opener."

September rains, floods batter road infra, crops in Kalyana K'taka

VITTAL SHASTRI
KALABURAGI, DHNS

A low-pressure system developed over Bay of Bengal has caused heavy rainfall and flood in Kalaburagi, Bidar and Yadgir districts, causing considerable damage to the infrastructure, including roads and bridges, and crops.

Kalaburagi district has received 48% more rainfall while Bidar recorded 60% and Yadgir 63% more showers in September.

Since June, Kalaburagi district has experienced 734 mm rainfall against normal 552 mm. Meanwhile, Bidar has witnessed 987 mm rainfall against normal 628 mm during this period. Officials claimed that these districts have not experienced such a heavy rainfall and flood since 2018. Kalaburagi district, however, had witnessed floods with 817 mm rainfall in September, 2021.

These districts are continuing to experience torrential rainfall which is expected to continue for the next 10 days, according to the India Meteorological Department.

The incessant rainfall and the floods have battered roads and bridges in Kalaburagi, Bidar and Raichur districts. The officials have estimated damage to more than 10 km of state highway and district roads in Kalaburagi district.

Unyielding showers have damaged the national highway that passes through Sirwar town in Raichur district.

In Raichur district, as much as 67 kilometers of roads, 29 bridges and culverts, pipe culverts, and causeways are damaged. But, the officials are yet to make a final assessment of the damage to the infrastructure. PWD officials from all districts of Kalyana Karnataka have sent a proposal to the government seeking Rs 50 crore to undertake immediate restoration of roads.

A tur field near Hulsoor in Bidar taluk is flood. The tur farmers of Bidar and Kalaburagi districts are staring at losses due to heavy rains and flooding of fields.

"Kalaburagi and other districts of Kalyana Karnataka region are prone to drought every year. But, the climatic condition has witnessed sudden change due to the low pressure system over the Bay of Bengal, leading to heavy rainfall in Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and north interior parts of Karnataka," according to India Meteorological Department scientist Dr C S Patil.

Meanwhile, the agricultural scientists have advised farmers to plan their agricultural operations in accordance with the weather forecast apart from change of the cropping pattern.

"The rainwater will stagnate for several days on agricultural fields in Kalaburagi district as they contain high amounts of limestone. Therefore, the farmers have been advised to build the structures to facilitate easy flow of water during excess rainfall," Agriculture Department Joint Director Samad Patel advised.

No respite from rain till October 15

Bidar Agriculture Research Station's India Meteorological Department technical officer Basavaraj Biradar said that intermittent rainfall will continue in Bidar, Kalaburagi and Yadgir districts until October 15.

"The Rabi season had to commence from September end in the region. But, continuous rainfall due to climate change has delayed the sowing operation for the next crop. These districts have not experienced such a heavy rainfall and flood since 2018," he added.

Boards & corpns: CM drops 7 names from high command's list

Vinay Kulkarni's wife Shivleela is new chief of KUWSSB

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has dropped seven names out of 39 proposed by the Congress high command as chairpersons of various boards and corporations.

Earlier this week, the Congress finalised the names of 39 party leaders as chairpersons of boards and corporations.

From this list, Siddaramaiah has dropped Neelkant Mulge (KKRTC), Syed Mehmood Chisty (Pulses Development Corporation), B S Kavalagi (Lime Development Board), Anjanappa (Seeds Development Corporation), Sharanappa Saladpur (Agricultural Produce Processing & Export Board), R S Sathyanarayana (Temperance Board) and Anilkumar Jamadar (Tur Dal Development Corporation).

Siddaramaiah has given positions to two Congress leaders who were not in the high command's list: Niketh Raj Maurya as BMTC chairperson and H D Ganesh as Mysuru Paints & Varnish Ltd chairperson.

Meanwhile, Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh has asked the concerned departments to issue orders appointing the remaining 32 persons as chairpersons of various boards and corporations. This includes Dharwad MLA Vinay Kulkarni's wife Shivleela replacing him as chairperson at Karnataka Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Board (KUWSSB), former MLC K Harish Kumar (Mescom), former MLA N Sampangi (Warehousing Corporation) and party general secretary Lavanya Ballal Jain (Seed & Organic Certification Agency).

The Congress' list created confusion as Afzalpur MLA M Y Patil's son Arun Patil was named as chairperson of NWKRTC, a position held by senior MLA Raju Kage. Siddaramaiah pacified Kage that there was a "printing mistake". Arun has been given KKRTC instead of Mulge, who was picked by the party.

Siddaramaiah has also appointed 10 Congress leaders as vice-chairpersons of various bodies: Saundatti MLA Vishwas Vasant Vaidya (Sri Renuka Yellamma Temple Development Authority), Rajya Sabha MP G C Chandrashekhar (National Military Memorial Management Trust), Pyarejan (Compost Development Corporation), Sunil Hanumannanavar (NWKRTC), S V Thambidorai (Forest Industries Corporation), V S Aradhya (BMTC), Aiyshwarya Mahadev (KRDCL), Arun Machaiah (Sports Authority), H Lakshman (Minerals Corporation) and Vijayalakshmi (KSSIDC).

Manjula new IT secy, Ekroop Caur goes to Centre

The state government on Friday appointed 2002-batch IAS officer N Manjula as the IT/BT secretary following the incumbent Ekroop Caur taking up a position with the Centre. Caur, a 2001-batch IAS officer, has been appointed as joint secretary at the department of expenditure, finance ministry. Accordingly, Caur was relieved by the state government.

Pro-Kannada outfit slams members' arrests over Hindi protest

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Karnataka Rakshana Vedike (KRV) on Friday warned the union government of a "fierce struggle" against Hindi "imposition", asserting that the organisation would not tolerate any further attempts to promote the language in the state.

KRV state president T A Narayan Gowda issued the warning a day after 41 activists of the organisation were arrested after they barged into a Hindi programme at the Taj West End Hotel, raising slogans and tearing up flex posters.

The programme was organised by the Committee of Parliament on Official Language, which comes under the Ministry of Home Affairs' Department of Official Language.

Addressing reporters, Gowda declared that the protest was a "big warning we have given to Hindi imperialists."

He detailed that the meeting, attended by six MPs, was specifically focused on discussing "how Hindi should be used and imposed" across 17 central government offices operational in Bengaluru. The KRV president clarified that protesters only tore banners and did not destroy any property.

Condemning the police action, Gowda stated that activists had been "falsely accused, booked and sent to jail." He declared that they are "not afraid of police cases or jail" and asked the state government to immediately withdraw the cases and release the activists.

Failing this, KRV plans to intensify the movement, with a state-wide protest planned for Saturday across all 31 district branches. He further warned that any organisation planning to promote Hindi in the state henceforth would face "consequences."

HC permits Centre to repatriate Russian woman, kids found in U-K cave

Woman, two kids were discovered living in cave near Kumta in July

AMBARISH B
BENGALURU, DHNS

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday permitted the Union government to send a Russian woman and her children back to Russia by issuing necessary travel documents.

Justice B M Shyam Prasad passed this order while disposing of a petition filed by Dror Shlomo Goldstein, an Israeli national who claims to be the father of the children, and sought to prevent the Union government from undertaking the sudden deportation of his minor daughters from India to another country.

Nina Kutina, a Russian national, and her two daughters were discovered living in a cave at Ramatirtha hills near Kumta in Uttara Kannada district in July 2025.

The Union government had informed the court that the woman and the children were in the Foreigners Restriction Centre for Women. The court was also informed that the youngest child had no passport, travel document or even birth certificate.

During the hearing on Friday, Additional Solicitor General Aravind Kamath, representing the Union government, informed the court that a DNA report of the child had been received and communicated to the Russian government. He further submitted that the Russian citizenship has been granted to the youngest child. Subsequently, emergency travel documents were issued for further action, he said, adding that the travel documents were valid from September 25 to October 9.

He also submitted that though the woman had been overstaying since 2017, sending the mother and the children back cannot be called deportation and it is only recognising the interest of the mother and the children.

The court noted that Russia had requested the Union government to expedite exit permits and allow the departure of the mother and the children back to Russia immediately.

"If these two circumstances are compelling for this court to conclude that this would be in the best interest of the children, the other circumstance, which is also significant, is the imploration by the mother herself to travel back to Russia with the children that has resulted in a response by the Russian government for return of these three as early as possible. The petition stands disposed of, observing that it would be in the domain of the central government to issue necessary documents to enable the mother and the children to travel back," the court said.

BJP legislators get advance bail in case over Kuruba statement

BENGALURU, DHNS

A special court for MPs/MLAs has granted anticipatory bail to BJP legislators Chalavadi Narayanaswamy and T S Srivatsa in a case registered against them for their statements opposing the state government's decision to add the Kurubas to Scheduled Tribes (ST) community.

Special court judge Santhosh Gajanan Bhat directed the police to release the petitioners in the event of their arrest on executing personal bond for Rs 50,000 each with one surety for the like sum. He further directed the petitioners not to threaten or tamper with the prosecution witnesses and to cooperate in the investigation.

The Vidhana Soudha police had registered an FIR under BNS Section 353(2) against

Chalavadi Narayanaswamy

Narayanaswamy and Srivatsa based on the complaint filed by Siddanna Teji.

The complainant said that the statements, opposing the inclusion of Kurubas to the ST category, were made to incite the ST and Valmiki communities against Kurubas, which would hurt the peace, harmony and public tranquility in the state.

The advocate for the legislators contended that the statements were twisted in such a manner to ensure that a false criminal case could be registered only to harass.

The court noted that there are no materials to indicate that the petitioners had given a statement to incite the general public or cause a mischievous act, which would disturb the public peace and tranquility.

"It is the settled principles of law that in a democratic country, every person, who is the citizen, is having valid rights to protest against any of the policy matters and that too when the petitioners are the elected members and people's representatives, they have a right to legitimately protest against the policy decisions of the government. Merely because some statements were given, it cannot be considered that they had given statements only to disturb the peace and tranquility between Scheduled Tribe and Valmiki community," the court said.

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End of an era as IAF retires MiG-21..

MiG-21, from Page 1

The aircraft's final sortie was led by Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh who was accompanied by six other pilots, mostly from 23 Squadron, in the final flypast. One of them was Squadron Leader Priya Sharma — one of the IAF's women combat pilots — signifying a transition among the forces. From now on, the aircraft will be a part of the heritage squadron.

Group Captain Rajender Nanda — the Commanding Officer of the 23 Squadron, the last MiG-21 unit that was decommissioned – was among the six, who flew with the IAF chief. This is symbolic because the same unit is slated to get the first batch of Tejas LCA Mk-1A, which will replace the MiG-21s.

On frequent accidents because of which the aircraft earned monikers like "flying coffin" and "widow-maker", the minister said the aircraft being flown currently were about 40 years old as the aircraft that came in the 1960s and 1970 have retired long ago.

Spl event to mark Srinivasa Udupa's birthday today

BENGALURU, DHNS: Kannada's celebrated Sugama Sangeetha exponent and lyricist Nagara Srinivasa Udupa will be honoured at a special event marking his 75th birthday at Town Hall on Saturday.

Organised by Gandhar and presented by his daughter, renowned singer Archana Udupa, the ceremony is a tribute to his contribution to the world of music. The event will revolve around the themes of "75 meaningful years" and "thousand songs." Udupa, whose career spans decades, has been instrumental in popularising Bhavageethe and devotional music.

As part of the celebration, five eminent women singers - Ratnamala Prakash, Manjula Gururaj, B R Chaya, Malathi Sharma, and Indu Vishwanath will be felicitated for their contributions to Sugama Sangeetha.

Caste survey duty derails health, holiday plans of teachers

Assn gets requests to press govt for cancelling enumeration

A file photo of enumerators collecting details at a household as part of social and educational survey.

PAVAN KUMAR H
HUBBALLI, DHNS

The ongoing Social and Educational Survey, which is facing several technical glitches, has also put-off plans of hundreds of school teachers.

The survey was initiated by the state government on September 22, which coincided with the commencement of 15 days Dasara holiday for schools.

Dasara holiday is family time for these teachers and it is also time for many to address their health issues and rejuvenate themselves. However, with them being deployed for the survey duty, many complained that their holiday plans went for a toss.

Ganesh, a government primary school teacher in Sirsi education district, said he had planned to get his hernias operated on. "After operations the doctors had suggested 10 days of rest. I thought of getting it operated during these holidays. I had postponed the operation during summer holidays also as I was deputed for the survey related to internal reservation for Scheduled Castes (SCs) (which was held in May 2025). Now, I am not getting permission to get it operated," he said.

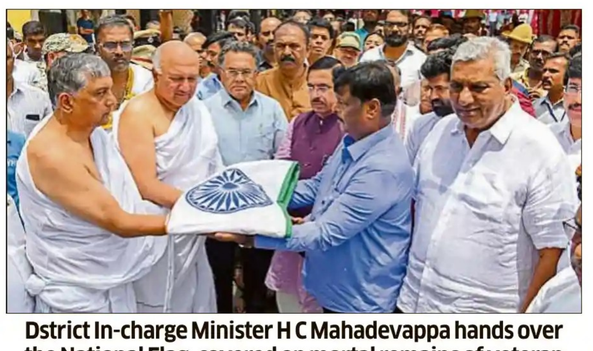
Patil Shivaraj, a businessman and husband of a primary school teacher in Abbegeri in Koppal district, has been accompanying his wife along with their two year-old child for the survey. "My child cannot stay away from his mother for long hours. So I am travelling with her for the survey by shutting my shop," he said. Due to slow server and app, we are ending up staying on the road for more than seven to eight hours for the last three days," he said.

There were at least three teachers who said they had planned for a family trip during this holiday, but had to cancel at the last minute. "Our family of seven had made plans for a North India pilgrimage. However, with my husband deputed for the survey, we had to drop out," said Rajeshwari Hiremath, wife of a government high school teacher.

Shivu Rathod, a Mangaluru-based teacher said there is a reason why school teachers are given mid-term holidays. "It is not only family time, but also to reinvent themselves by upgrading their skills and updating themselves with various teaching methods. If the teachers are forced to work round the year how will they improve upon their teaching skills," he said.

Shivaprasad Shetty, office-bearer of Karnataka Rajya Prathamika Shikkashakara Sangha (which has over 1.75 lakh members), said he has been receiving requests from across Karnataka requesting the Sangha to press upon the government to stop this survey as it is impacting their overall life.

"Many have their family commitments, health issues, personal works, holiday trips and others. If the government violates its own written orders and rules in employing them other than the educational duties, then it would impact their teaching and handling of students once the schools reopen," he said.



Dstrict In-charge Minister H C Mahadevappa hands over the National Flag, covered on mortal remains of veteran novelist S L Bhyrappa, to his sons S B Uday Shankar and S B Ravi Shankar at the crematorium near the foot of Chamundi Hill in Mysuru on Friday. Union Minister Pralhad Joshi and Minister K Venkatesh are seen. DH PHOTO

Bhyrappa cremated with state honours in Mysuru

MYSURU, DHNS: The mortal remains of literary giant Santeshivara Linganna-iah (S L) Bhyrappa, 94, were consigned to flames with full state honours on Friday 12.30 pm at the crematorium near the foot of Chamundi Hill.

Bhyrappa died on Wednesday due to heart attack in Rashtrottana Hospital in Bengaluru.

His sons S B Uday Shankar and S B Ravi Shankar performed the rituals as per Hoysala Karnataka Brahmana customs under the guidance of a team of seven priests, led by Mysuru Palace priest Chandrashekar Shasthri.

Journalist Vishweshwar Bhat, Ex-MP Pratap Simha and writer Sahana Vijaykumar joined in liting his pyre.

District in-charge Minister H C Mahadevappa, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, MLA T S Srivathsa, MLC K Shivakumar, philanthropist Tejaswini Ananth Kumar, and DC G Lakshmikanth Reddy paid floral tributes to him.

More than 150 people from his native village Santheshivara of Hassan district participated.

A three-round gun salute was paid and the police band performed the National Anthem.

Mahadevappa handed over the National Flag, which was covered on Bhyrappa, to his sons.

Shivakumar launches Cauvery Aarti at KRS dam

MANDYA, DHNS: Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar launched the Cauvery Aarti, on the lines of Ganga Aarti in Varanasi, taken up at a cost of Rs 92 crore, at Brindavan Gardens, Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) dam, as part of Srirangapatna Dasara, on Friday.

A documentary on Cauvery Aarti was screened before launching the event. It explained how the Cauvery Aarti would develop tourism in the district and will be a tribute to Cauvery River, which is the lifeline of the people of Mandya, Mysuru and Bengaluru.

A team of more than 50 priests, led by scholar Bhanuprakash Sharma, conducted the rituals.

Shivakumar and District incharge Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy attended the event with their family members. The event was launched by the DCM offering puja to the idol of Goddess Cauvery, and performing Aarti. Later, he unveiled a plaque.

Free bus services have been arranged for the people of various taluks to take part in the Cauvery Aarti up to September 30. Meanwhile, there will be free entry to Brindavan Gardens till October 5.

Cauvery Aarti on the lines of Varanasi's Ganga Aarti, launched at KRS dam in Srirangapatna taluk of Mandya district on Friday. DH PHOTO

Denial of quota to Christian & Muslim Dalits is 'blatant discrimination': Archbishop

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Archbishop of Bengaluru, Peter Machado, on Friday described the denial of reservation benefits to Christian and Muslim Dalits and OBCs as "blatant discrimination against the Constitution".

Addressing the press on Friday, he clarified that he welcomed the ongoing Social and Educational Survey, popularly known as the caste census, being conducted across Karnataka from September 22 to October 7.

His concern, he said, was not with the exercise itself but with the continued exclusion of minority Dalits and OBCs from opportunities in education, employment and welfare.

"The core principle of Christianity is that there are no castes. We are all born on the same earth and return to the same earth, so what makes one more special than the other," he asked.

While Christianity does not recognise caste, he added, the government does, and individuals should therefore be free to declare their caste along with their religion during the census.

Recalling an old legal provision that excludes Christian and Muslim Dalit converts from OBC entitlements granted to Hindu Dalits, the Archbishop said: "Despite everything, there are poor people in all religions. Everyone should be allowed the same opportunities. This denial goes against the spirit of equality in the Constitution."

Church leaders have issued clear instructions to Christian families to actively declare caste truthfully, identify religion as "Christian", cooperate with survey personnel and keep Aadhaar-linked mobile numbers ready. Parish priests have been asked to make announcements, mobilise volunteers and ensure no one is left out.

Activist Sonam Wangchuk arrested under NSA over Ladakh violence

Activist, from Page 1

Reacting to the Home Ministry's accusations, Wangchuk added: "It is as sad as the incident itself. The way they are dealing with the issue in a childish way."

Wangchuk's hunger strike was aimed at pressing the demand for full statehood and constitutional safeguards under the Sixth Schedule.

The strike was called off on September 24, the day protests spiralled into deadly clashes in Leh—the worst violence the region has witnessed in years. Local authorities have since imposed restrictions on public gatherings and heavy deployment remains in place in both Leh and Kargil town, with dozens of people having been detained for questioning.

Speculation is already rife that foreign interests and local political rivalries may be exploiting the unrest, even as Ladakhis rally more vocally for constitutional protections.

Survey: No extension, says CM, asks officials to buck up

Survey, from Page 1

On Friday, the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes, which is carrying out the survey, ordered the release of Rs 60.36 crore as remuneration for enumerators.

A total of 1.20 lakh enumerators will get an honorarium of Rs 5,000 each. On top of this, they will get Rs 100 for every household surveyed.

"None should have doubts about remuneration. We have already released the money," Siddaramaiah said.

"There is no resistance among enumerators. Those who resist and don't cooperate will face legal action," he added. In remote, hilly regions, the government will set up survey centres in nearby schools where residents can get themselves enumerated, Siddaramaiah said.

"In homes that are found locked, enumerator will leave behind a sticker informing residents that they will be visited again," he said, adding that citizens can participate in the survey online, too.

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SAD DEMISE

Sr M Stanislas A.C
Former Headmistress of Mary Immaculate High school Wilson Garden Bangalore.
Passed away on 25.09.202.
Funeral at St Agnes Convent, Mangalore on 28.09.2025 at 3pm.
Mourned by:
Management, Staff & Students, Mary Immaculate School, Wilson Garden.

IN LOVING MEMORY

A.G. VENKATESH KUMAR
FONDLY REMEMBERED BY
PARENTS, FAMILY & FRIENDS

IN LOVING MEMORY

VIJAYALAKSHMI SOMASEKHAR
(neé Sreenivasan)
26-12-1925 – 24-09-2025
With deep love and remembrance, we bid farewell to our beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Her presence will remain with us always.
Geeta & Jaisim, Mallika, Ananth, Ajay & Varsha, Aarathi, Ashwini, Sangeeta, Abhimanya, Rishi, Kirtana, Avanti, & Aman

ORR stretch...

ORR, from Page 1

The initial plan of merging the service road with the main carriageway by removing the medians has been dropped, it is learnt.

Barring GAIL gas, power transmission and Cauvery water lines, which pass through the main carriageway, the GBA plans to shift all other utilities below the duct, which will be created on the edge of the road.

The redevelopment of footpaths and building underground ducts will be taken up first, sources said.

R K Mishra, who advises the govt pro bono, said Metro had started removing barricades and clearing debris along the ORR. "The asphalting of the service roads and the roads connecting the ORR is in progress," he said, adding that roadside parking must be banned.

US imposes 100% tariff on branded drug imports

Tariff, from Page 1

Though India exports primarily generic drugs to the US, which have been kept out of the new tariffs, the announcement stirred a sharp fall in pharma stocks.

Shares of Sun Pharma, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Cipla, Lupin, and Aurobindo Pharma, which are among the major exporters of drugs to the US, fell sharply. Wockhardt Ltd slumped 9.4%. Zydus Lifesciences tanked 4.21% and Glenmark Pharma slipped 2.99% on the BSE.

"Most Indian exports are generics, which remain exempt. Still, the uncertainty around future policy shifts keeps nerves on edge," said Ajit Mishra, senior vice president for research at Religare Broking.

"For India's pharma giants, this is a wake-up call to strengthen supply chains and explore US-based manufacturing, even as the sector's core strength in affordable generics continues to support global healthcare," he added.

The US is India's largest pharmaceutical export market, accounting for around 35% of total exports. India primarily exports low-cost generic drugs to the US. Around 80% of India's total pharma exports to the US in 2024-25 were generic drugs. Drugs, which are not branded or patented, are referred to as generic.

The imposition of 100% tariff means the prices of imported branded and patented pharmaceutical products will double for American importers and consumers.

The announcement comes just a couple of days after an Indian delegation led by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal visited the US for talks on the proposed bilateral trade agreement.

"The delegation had constructive meetings with the US government on various aspects of the deal. Both sides exchanged views on possible contours of the deal and it was decided to continue the engagements with a view to achieve early conclusion of a mutually beneficial trade agreement," the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said in a statement.

Tariff unlikely to impact India's pharma exports

India's pharma, from Page 1

In FY24, pharmaceutical exports totalled $27.9 billion, with the US accounting for 31% or about $8.7 billion (Rs 77,231 crore), Pharmexcil data showed. During the first half this year, exports stood at $3.7 billion (Rs 32,505 crore). Pharma majors such as Dr Reddy's, Aurobindo Pharma, Zydus Lifesciences, Sun Pharma and Gland Pharma derive between 30-50% of their overall revenues from the American market.

Namit Joshi, chairman of Pharmexcil, said, current investigations under Section 232 appear focused elsewhere and have not taken a direct call on generics. Nonetheless, it is prudent to remain prepared for future policy shifts and to build risk-mitigation strategies.

"Indian pharmaceutical companies continue to ensure the affordability and availability of essential medications — from life-saving oncology drugs and antibiotics to chronic disease treatments — helping stabilise global healthcare systems," he said.

Looking ahead, India will need to reinforce its cost-efficiency advantage in bulk drugs and APIs — an area where the US is likely to favour India over other suppliers — and simultaneously invest in next-generation opportunities such as complex generics, peptides, biosimilars and CAR-T therapies, Joshi said.

According to Abinash Kumar, director & chief business officer, Adroit Agencies Pvt Ltd, Indian generics save the US healthcare system close to $200 billion every year, and that scale of supply cannot be substituted overnight.

"The proposed tariffs will inevitably accelerate India's focus on biosimilar and bioequivalent drugs. What we are likely to see is USFDA-approved Indian manufacturers redirecting a larger share of their products to India and other emerging markets, which in turn will strengthen the domestic generic industry and expand patient access," he said.

Gaurav Soni, founder and managing director, Botanic Healthcare, said, "A 100% tariff on pharmaceuticals is a short-sighted policy that weaponises healthcare in the name of trade. It punishes patients before it pressures governments, making life-saving drugs unaffordable and undermining decades of progress in global health access."

Delicacies for festive days

Cuisines of Karnataka, Season IV, an initiative of Prajavani and Deccan Herald, presented by Freedom Healthy Cooking Oils, has some tongue ticklers, just right for the festive season.
Here are two from chef Sihi Kahi Chandru.

Halasina Mulka

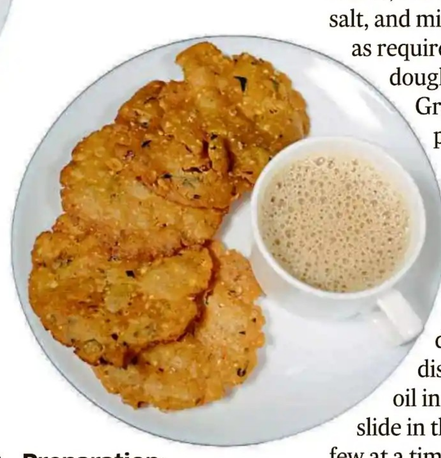
What you need:
- Eight jackfruits
- One cup each of grated coconut, soaked rice and grated jaggery
- Five green cardamoms
- Half a teaspoon of baking soda
- A pinch of salt, oil to fry

Preparation:
Soak the rice for five hours. Grind the jackfruits to a fine paste. Mix grated coconut and jaggery along with green cardamoms, soaked rice and baking soda, and grind to a fine paste. Heat oil in a kadai. Take the jackfruit batter with three fingers and drop into the hot oil, and fry till golden brown. Serve hot with ghee.

Hurigadle Nippattu

Sihi Kahi Chandru shows off his Hurigadle Nippattu

What you need:
- Two tablespoons each of roasted peanuts, besan and hot oil
- Three-fourths cup of fried gram
- One cup each of rice flour and white sesame seeds
- 10 chopped curry leaves
- One teaspoon of red chilli powder
- Salt to taste, oil for frying



Preparation:
Grind half a cup of the fried gram into a fine powder and keep aside. Grind the roasted peanuts into a coarse powder in a mortar pestle. Put the rice flour into a mixing bowl. Add prepared fried gram powder and besan, and mix well. Add the hot oil and mix well again. Take a portion of the mixture and squeeze in your palm. If it holds shape the oil is enough.
Add the crushed ground nuts, remaining fried gram, white sesame seeds, curry leaves, red chilli powder and salt, and mix well. Add water as required to get a soft dough.
Grease a small plastic sheet with some oil. Take a small portion of the dough and place it over the greased sheet, and shape the dough into a small disc. Heat sufficient oil in a kadai. Gently slide in the small discs, a few at a time, and deep-fry till golden brown and crisp. Drain on an absorbent paper. Allow them to cool. Store in an airtight container. Serve with hot coffee.

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Date of Commencement of e-Auction: 08.10.2025

Minimum raise of Bid Price in multiples of Rs.500/- per sq.mtr.

The Bangalore Development Authority, Bengaluru, announces the e-Auction of Residential & Commercial Corner/Intermediate Sites. The auction/sale of these sites is conducted in accordance with the Bangalore Development Authority's Disposal of Corner, Intermediate and Commercial Sites Rules, 1984. The sites are auctioned on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS.

Last date & time of express interest of participation in e-Auction: 24.10.2025, 5.00 p.m. IST

Date of commencement of Live Bidding (For Sl. No. 01 to 55): 27.10.2025, 11.00 a.m. IST
Last date for bid closing: 28.10.2025 up to 5.00 p.m. (Delta time 5.00 minutes)

Sl. No.	Site No.	Dimention in Meters		Area in Sq. Mtrs.
		East-West	North-South	
Arkavathy Layout 7th Block, Jakkur				
1	1267	12.00	3.00	36.00
2	1356	12.00	7.70	92.40
3	1600	8.00	12.00	96.00
4	1601	8.80	12.00	105.60
5	1995	(3.50+4.80)/2	9.00	37.35
6	1996	(8.20+6.90)/2	12.00	90.60
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. Rs.73,500, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathy Layout 1st Block, Jakkur				
7	433	12.00	(6.00+7.00)/2	78.00
8	434	12.00	9.50	114.00
9	453	12.00	(9.00+9.50)/2	111.00
10	454	12.00	9.00	108.00
11	473	12.00	(9.00+10.00)/2	114.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 73,500, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathy Layout 7th Block, Jakkur				
12	147A	12.00	(8.00+7.60)/2	93.60
13	375A	11.30	(7.30+16.60)/2	135.04
14	367A	12.00	(16.60+7.70)/2	145.80
15	353B	9.00	(8.30+13.75)/2	99.23
16	1333	12.00	6.00	72.00
17	2195	12.00	6.00	72.00
18	2119	24.00	7.00	168.00
19	1289	12.00	(9.00+7.00)/2	96.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 73,500, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathy Layout 20th Block, Thanisandra				
20	1088	9.00	(12.2+12.00)/2	108.90
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500.00, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathy Layout 15th Block, Thanisandra				
21	TS876	(11.5+12.00)/2	(8.5+7.5)/2	94.00
22	TS481	18.00	12.00	216.00
23	TS518	11.50	(7.00+8.00)/2	86.25
24	TS514	12.00	(6.5+6.8)/2	78.80
25	555	12.00	(12.5+10.2)/2	36.20
26	TS488	18.00	(6.00+8.00)/2	126.00
27	573	18.00	(7.5+8.2)/2	141.30
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathy Layout 14th Block, Thanisandra				
28	26A	18.00	(12.00+7.00)/2	171.00
29	50A	18.00	(12.00+5.5)/2	157.50
30	80A	18.00	(11.4+7.2)/2	167.40
31	8A	18.00	(12.00+6.6)/2	167.40
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathy Layout 15th Block, Thanisandra				
32	TS487	18.00	(10.00+8.00)/2	162.00
33	TS1061	18.00	(7.2+10.00)/2	154.00
34	522	12.00	(8.4+10.2)/2	111.60
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathy Layout 2nd Block, Jakkur				
35	JK166D	12.00	(8.45+13.30)/2	130.50
36	2282A	18.00	(4.60+12.80)/2	156.60
37	2242A	24.00	(6.50+16.15)/2	271.80
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 73,500.00, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathy Layout 7th Block, Jakkur				
38	3054	(4.50+5.10)/2	15.00	72.00
39	1401	12.00	(7.30+8.20)/2	93.00
40	1402	18.00	6.40	115.20
41	2691	7.00	12.00	84.00
42	1378	12.00	7.00	84.00
43	333B	9.00	(14.40+7.80)/2	99.90
44	332A	9.00	(9.50+14.70)/2	108.90
45	306B	9.00	(14.20+9.30)/2	105.75
46	212	12.00	4.40	52.80
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 73,500.00, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathy Layout 2nd Block, Sampigehalli				
47	694	12.00	8.90	106.80
48	2260	24.00	(10.00+10.50)/2	246.00
49	2079A	24.00	(11.90+20.70)/2	391.20
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 60,000.00, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathy Layout 3rd Block, Sampigehalli				
50	216	(4.10+3.70)/2	9.00	35.10
51	85A	(4.10+3.70)/2	9.00	35.10
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 60,000.00, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathy Layout 2nd Block, Sampigehalli				
52	2361	9.00	6.00	54.00
53	2362	9.00	6.00	54.00
54	2411	9.00	6.00	54.00
55	2454	9.00	6.00	54.00
56	2498	9.00	6.00	54.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 60,000.00, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathy Layout 18th Block, Byrathikhane				
57	BK42	(12.00+11.70)/2	9.00	106.65
58	BK43	(12.00+11.70)/2	9.02	106.88
59	683A	(5.80+8.85)/2	(12.00+12.38)/2	89.29
60	655	(8.85+11.90)/2	(12.00+12.38)/2	126.47
61	624	9.00	12.00	108.00
62	718	12.00	(9.15+10.25)/2	116.40
63	692	12.00	(8.85+8.35)/2	103.20
64	691	18.00	(12.00+11.97)/2	215.73
65	711	12.00	(9.00+8.95)/2	107.70
66	710	12.00	(9.00+8.90)/2	107.40
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 75,000.00, Contact: 8217795990				
Arkavathi Layout 2nd Block, Sampigehalli				
67	2101	18.00	(15.60+15.90)/2	283.50
68	2094	24.00	(14.00+15.80)/2	357.60
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 60,000.00, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathi Layout 3rd Block, Sampigehalli				
69	100	(3.00+3.80)/2	9.00	30.60
70	117	(4.80+3.80)/2	9.00	38.70
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 60,000.00, Contact: 7349388238				

Date of commencement of Live Bidding (For Sl. No.56 to 110): 28.10.2025, 11.00 a.m. IST
Last date for bid closing: 29.10.2025 up to 5.00 p.m. (Delta time 5.00 minutes)

Sl. No.	Site No.	Dimention in Meters		Area in Sq. Mtrs.
		East-West	North-South	
Arkavathi Layout 2nd Block, Sampigehalli				
71	289	12.00	(5.10+5.40)/2	63.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 60,000.00, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathi Layout 15th Block, Thanisandra				
72	538	12.00	(6.2+7.8)/2	84.00
73	539	12.00	(8.8+7.8)/2	99.60
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500.00, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathi Layout 16th Block, Thanisandra				
74	274	9.00	(9+8.8)/2	80.10
75	273	9.00	(9.2+8.8)/2	81.00
76	258	9.00	8.60	77.40
77	257	9.00	(8.6+8.3)/2	76.05
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500.00, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathi Layout 19th Block, Thanisandra				
78	730B	(10.5+7.7)/2	(12+12.5)/2	222.95
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500.00, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathi Layout 15th Block, Thanisandra				
79	521	15.00	(11.5+9.2)/2	155.25
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500.00, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathi Layout 20th Block, Thanisandra				
80	TS868	(12.00+12.2)/2	(8.00+8.5)/2	99.82
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500.00, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathi Layout 15th Block ,Thanisandra				
81	282	(8.9+9.00)/2	12.00	107.40
82	282/A	(8.9+9.6)/2	6.00	55.50
83	226	18.00	(12.8+12.6)/2	228.60
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500.00, Contact: 9980402882				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 9th Block, Hemmigepura				
84	67/A	18.00	(7.40+6.9)/2	128.70
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 60,000.00, Contact: 9844916955				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 8th Block, Sompura				
85	511	18.00	(14.40+4.30)/2	168.30
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 63,000.00, Contact: 9844916955				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 7th Block, Sompura				
86	749	24.00	(12.40+21.50)/2	406.80
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 63,000.00, Contact: 9844916955				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 11th Block, Ganakallu				
87	1207	7.00	12.00	84.00
88	1192	5.00	9.00	45.00
89	1169	5.00	9.00	45.00
90	1053	(4.50+5.00)/2	9.00	42.75
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 84,000.00, Contact: 8147799282				
J P Nagar 9th Phase, 2nd Block, Alahalli				
91	34	(12.30+11.70)/2	12.19	146.28
92	73	11.70	12.19	142.62
93	74	(9.20+7.50)/2	12.19	101.78
94	114	(7.30+7.50)/2	12.19	90.20
95	432	18.28	(10.30+12.00)/2	203.82
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,06,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Anjanapura Township 8th Block, Anjanapura				
96	749/D	(1/2*21.60)/2	24.00	259.20
97	750/D	(4.90+22.30)/2	18.00	244.80
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 80,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 1st Block, Turahalli				
98	1096	18.00	(26.00+29.00)/2	495.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 69,000.00, Contact: 8147799282				
Further Extension of Anjanapura Layout 10th Block, Kembathalli				
99	437	12.00	(10.90+9.30)/2	121.20
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 73,500.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Anjanapura township 6th Block, Anjanapura				
100	919	9.00	6.00	54.00
101	943	(10.00+11.00)/2	6.00	63.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 71,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Anjanapura township 8th Block, Anjanapura				
102	101	24.00	15.00	360.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 80,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 4th Block, Lingadeeranahalli				
103	1803	12.00	18.00	216.00
104	1802	12.00	18.00	216.00
105	1800	12.00	18.00	216.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr.. 69,300.00, Contact: 9591964603				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 3rd Block, Hemmigepura				
106	2061	(16.00+4.50)/2	12.00	123.00
107	1860	(16.00+4.90)/2	12.00	125.40
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr.74,100.00, Contact: 9591964603				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 1st Block, Turahalli				
108	266	(12.00+15.50)/2	18.00	247.50
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 68,700.00, Contact: 9591964603				
Kumaraswamy 1st Block, Govinayakanahalli				
109	54	(7.70+2.20)/2	9.00	44.55
110	10	(7.2+11.30)/2	9.00	83.25
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,27,500.00, Contact: 9591964603				
BTM 6th Stage, 1st Block, Hulimavu				
111	52	(11.00+9.00)/2	12.19	123.12
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 90,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Anjanapura Township 1st Block, Anjanapura				
112	593	(9.00+3.70)/2	12.00	76.20
113	711	(7.50+3.10)/2	12.00	63.60
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr.64,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Further Extension of Anjanapura 10th Block, Kembathatalli				
114	1140	18.00	12.00	216.00
115	1141	18.00	12.00	216.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 73,200.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 11th Block, Ganakallu				
116	1146	12.00	8.00	96.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,02,000.00, Contact: 9591964603				
J P Nagar 9th Phase, 4th Block, Alahalli				
117	230	6.00	9.00	54.00

Date of commencement of Live Bidding (For Sl. No. 111 to 164) : 29.10.2025, 11.00 a.m. IST
Last date for bid closing: 30.10.2025 up to 5.00 p.m. (Delta time 5.00 minutes)

Sl. No.	Site No.	Dimention in Meters		Area in Sq. Mtrs.
		East-West	North-South	
118	186	6.00	9.00	54.00
119	138	6.00	9.00	54.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,22,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Jnanbharathi 1st Block, Nagadevanahalli				
120	44	5.75	9.14	52.55
121	13	5.75	9.14	52.55
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,00,000.00, Contact: 8147510380				
Further Extension of Sir M Vishweshwaraiah Layout 7th Block, Gidadakonenahalli				
122	1155	(11.70+13.80)/2	(16.0+8.0)/2	153.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr.72,000.00, Contact: 8147510380				
Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage, 5th Block, Malagala				
123	165	(5.40+3.70)/2	11.80	53.69
124	180	12.10	(2.60+9.80)/2	75.02
125	164	12.10	(3.80+10.40)/2	85.91
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,31,500.00, Contact: 6362956998				
Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage, 3rd Block, Malagala				
126	14	18.30	(19.60+4.10)/2	216.86
127	126	12.20	(15.30+8.00)/2	142.13
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,31,500.00, Contact: 6362956998				
HBR 1st Stage, 3rd Block, Kacharakanahalli				
128	818	18.28	12.19	222.83
129	814	18.28	12.19	222.83
130	815	18.28	12.19	222.83
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,71,500.00, Contact: 8722433608				
Arkavathy 19th Block, Challakere				
131	CH30	(6.60+6.00)/2	9.00	56.70
132	CH51	(4.20+3.00)/2	12.00	43.20
133	1166	5.50	9.00	49.50
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 75,000.00, Contact: 7349388238				
Arkavathy 11th Block, Rachenahalli				
134	1157	12.00	(7.40+7.60)/2	90.00
135	1181/A	12.00	7.90	94.80
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500.00, Contact: 9980402882				
Arkavathy 15th Block, Thanisandra				
136	TS620	9.00	5.00	45.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 82,500.00, Contact: 9980402882				
J.P Nagar (T.K.Deepak Layout) 8th Phase, 1st A Block, Kothanur				
137	189	12.19	18.28	222.83
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,00,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
BTM 4th Stage, 2nd Block, Devarachikkanahalli				
138	1242	20.50	14.60	266.88
139	1246	21.00	12.20	266.88
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,30,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Banashankari 6th Stage, 11th Block, Ganakallu				
140	893	(14.00+29.00)/2	24.00	516.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,02,000.00, Contact: 9591964603				
BTM 6th Stage, 1st Block, Hulimavu				
141	176	18.28	(16.50+7.50)/2	310.76
142	268	24.38	12.30	299.87
143	274	24.38	15.24	371.55
144	279	6.00	24.38	146.28
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 90,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
BTM 4th Stage, 2nd Block, Devarachikkanahalli				
145	952	6.00	12.19	73.14
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,30,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Further Extension of Banashankari 6th Stage, 4th B Block, B.M Kaval				
146	1060	18.00	(17.00+21.60)/2	347.40
147	865	18.00	(19.00+16.00)/2	315.00
148	915	18.00	(13.50+6.50)/2	180.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 69,300.00, Contact: 9591964603				
Further Extension of Banashankari 6th Stage, 4th B Block, U.M Kaval				
149	998	18.00	(10.00+5.00)/2	135.00
150	999	18.00	(16.00+10.00)/2	234.00
151	1063	18.00	(3.00+12.00)/2	135.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 69,300.00, Contact: 9591964603				
Further Extension of Banashankari 6th Stage, 4th T Block,Talaghattapura				
152	395/A	12.00	(9.00+1.50)/2	63.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 69,300.00, Contact: 9591964603				
Anjanapura Township 8th Block				
153	1119	(6.00+12.00)/2	12.00	108.00
154	1150	(8.30+3.00)/2	12.00	67.80
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 88,500.00, Contact: 8310525317				
J.P Nagara 9th Phase, 4th A Block, Kothanur				
155	458	(5.30+3.80)/2	9.60	43.68
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,06,100.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Anjanapura Township 1st Block, Anjanapura				
156	540/D	12.00	9.00	108.00
157	579/N	11.50	9.00	103.50
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 64,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
Sir M Vishweshwariah Layout 4th Block, Ramasandra				
158	1793/9	15.00	24.00	360.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 72,000.00, Contact: 6362956998				
Anjanapura Township 1st Block, Anjanapura				
159	290/B	(3.80+13.00)/2	12.00	100.80
160	809	12.00	(13.30+4.10)/2	104.40
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 64,000.00, Contact: 8310525317				
HBR 1st Stage, 2nd Block, Kacharakanahalli				
161	334	18.28	12.19	222.83
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,72,000.00, Contact: 8722433608				
Banashankari 3rd Stage, Avalahalli				
162	217/A	6.25	8.90	55.62
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,42,000.00, Contact: 9844916955				
J.P Nagara 8th Phase, 1st Block, Kothanur				
163	227	(3.00+3.20)/2	9.14	28.33
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,00,000.00, Contact: 9844916955				
Nandini Layout, J.B. Kaval				
164	176	6.00	9.00	54.00
Intial bid price per Sq.Mtr. 1,10,000.00, Contact: 6362956998				

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR e-AUCTION

1. The auction purchaser should be a Citizen of India.
2. Address proof: Any one of the following documents attested by a Gazetted Officer/Notary/Embassy Office (in the case of NRIs) shall be uploaded:- a) Voter ID b) Driving License, c) Passport, d) Unique ID number (Aadhaar).
3. Uploading of PAN Card in e-auction portal is compulsory (Should be attested by Gazetted Officer/Notary/Attested by Embassy Office in case of N.R.I.).
4. Signature & Photo Identity should be uploaded on the e-Auction portal [Attested by a Gazetted Officer/Notary / Embassy Office (in the case of NRIs)]. Please download the prescribed format.
5. The auction purchaser shall mention correct e-mail address, mobile number and landline number while participating in the e-Auction. The bidder whose name is registered in the e-procurement is final and the site will not be transferred to any other name.
6. **Minors/persons without computer knowledge are eligible to participate in the auction through their guardians or friends. While doing so, the name and related documents of only the person purchasing the property must be submitted / uploaded on the e-Auction portal while participating in the e-Auction.**
7. Partnership firm may participate in the auction. However, the partnership firm should have been registered in India before participating in the auction.
8. EMD amount is fixed at Rs.4.00 lakh (Rupees Four Lakh only) per site and this amount along with the e-Auction fee should be remitted as mentioned on the e-Procurement portal. 5% Service charge on EMD shall be deducted during refund if remitted to BDA's account instead of e-Auction Portal.
9. All legal proceedings in respect of the auction sites are subject to the jurisdiction of Courts in Bengaluru only.
10. Five minutes of delta time shall be extended to the last moment bids in the e-Auction.
11. BDA reserves the right to withdraw the sites notified for auction at any time during auction period without assigning any reasons.
12. **BDA reserves the right to accept or reject the bid made by the successful bidder without assigning any reasons.**
13. **Bank Name:- Canara Bank, BDA Complex Branch, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560020.**
    Savings Account Name:- Bangalore Development Authority, Bengaluru.
    Savings Account Number: 2828101053014 IFSC Code No.:- CNRB0002828
    Mode of Payment:-RTGS/NEFT
14. Advice letters will be sent by e-Mail to successful bidders (highest bidders) to remit 25% of the total cost after deducting EMD amount of Rs.4.00 lakh to the above-mentioned BDA's Bank Account, and the challan for remittance should be submitted to the Accounts Officer, Finance Department ('D' Block, 2nd Floor, Room No.308). In case of failure to remit 25% within stipulated time, as mentioned in the e-auction adviced letter, EMD shall be forfeited. Successful bidders after remitting 25% of the final bid amount should pay the balance 75% amount within 45 days of receiving the allotment letter from BDA.
15. EMD amount of Rs. 4. Lakhs of unsuccessful bidders will be credited to their Account within 30 working days.
16. The auction purchasers who desire to have the sites jointly registered should upload the details of the persons concerned on the e-Portal. Only blood relations, viz., spouse, sons or unmarried daughters are eligible for joint registration along with the auction purchaser. The relationship of such person should be clearly mentioned and any Government ID proof must be attached along with the application. Later such requests shall be rejected.
17. During bidding, if there are any duplication of Nick names for the same site, such bid will be rejected without assigning any reasons.
18. **Where 25% of the total cost is not remitted within 72 hours of receiving e-Auction Advice letter by the successful bidders (highest bidders) or where 25% of the total cost is remitted after the prescribed time, the EMD amount of Rs.4.00 lakh shall be forfeited by the Authority.**
19. As per IT Act, 1961 Sec. 194 IA, where the sale consideration exceeds Rs.50.00 lakh, the auction purchaser should deduct 1% of the total amount payable and remit the same to the IT Department.
20. In case there is a difference in the dimension of the site (Less/More), the full amount (less TDS) as per the dimensions in the e-Auction notification/letter of confirmation of auction site has to be remitted within the prescribed time. If the remittance is not made within the prescribed time, action will be taken as per the Disposal of Corner, Intermediate and Commercial Sites Rules, 1984 of BDA. In case there is a difference in actual dimensions of the site (less/ more), the excess amount, if any, remitted by the auction purchaser due to lower dimensions shall be refunded by BDA without interest. Similarly, any incremental amount due to higher dimension of the site shall be remitted by the auction purchaser as advised by BDA. Bidder should pay the full amount and then go for correction in dimensions, if any.
21. Bidder/auction purchaser shall abide by the Disposal of Corner, Intermediate and Commercial Sites Rules, 1984 of BDA (Document is attached as part of the e-Auction documents.).
22. For demonstration of live bidding & learning the process of bidding, visit BDA Head Office during office hours. Bidding by BDA on behalf of a bidder shall not be undertaken during the demonstration.
23. While participating in the e-auction, the bid amount should exceed the base price by 10% i.e., site measuring 108 m^2 has base price @Rs.45,000/m^2. Bidders should quote more than Rs.45,000x1.1=Rs.49,500/m^2 (Rs.49,500 if quoted will be rejected). However, BDA reserves the right to accept or reject any bid without assigning any reasons.
24. There should be minimum of 2 bidders for each site. Single bidder will be rejected.
25. Website address: **www.kbda.karnataka.gov.in**
26. E-auction bidders can download the New e-Auction bidding user manual by logging on to the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For more information contact Kamataka Public Procurement Portal: 080-46010000 & 080-68948777.
27. The auctioned Sites will be allotted to the successful bidders in the same condition as they are. Bidders participating in the e-auction must physically check the location of the site, road width etc., before bidding. Sites allotted in the e-auction will not be cancelled/substituted.
28. Bidders participating in E-Auction are meant to adhere to all the terms and conditions specified above.
29. Regarding the e-Auction, Bidders should contact the Authority directly and should not contact any middle men.
30. Geo tag of the sites are for reference only. No Claim is entertained if there are any discrepancies in it.

Bidders have to read all the Terms and Conditions before bidding and shall participate accordingly.

For Location of sites and other details, log on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

BDA site related Queries: **080-23368435 / 23368036** and KPPP Technical issues contact: **080-46010000 / 68948777**

No.: BDA/EM/e-Auction/T-09/2025/ 19.09.2025

Sd/- Engineer Member

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020

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Truth was a casualty at Trump's UN show

President Donald Trump's address to the UN General Assembly was true to his reputation as a falsifier and self-promoter. Most of the claims he made would not stand scrutiny. The UN pulpit, a revered diplomatic platform, has seen many unremarkable addresses, but Trump's was a masterclass in bombast, tomfoolery, and posturing. He made a flawed reading of the world and bashed all countries. The president told the world and the UN that they are failing, and even questioned whether the UN should continue to exist. The White House had claimed that the speech would present Trump's vision for how America should wield its power abroad. But the address only further exposed the president's narrow, deficient view of the world.

Trump claimed that in his seven months in office, he stopped seven wars. This is untrue – the truth is that this century's most cruel war, in Gaza, is being waged with his support. The details he presented about the Ukraine war are not factual. His criticism of the Biden administration over immigration and trafficking was based on a misinterpretation. He said London had a "terrible, terrible Mayor" who wanted to implement Sharia law, again, with no proof to back the claim. He repeated his argument that global warming is a hoax and dismissed renewable energy as unworkable and expensive. Much of the speech was spent attacking the global efforts to fight climate change.

The president did not have much to offer beyond bluster and a series of claims without evidence

It was a tirade against the real world – countries, organisations, and individuals – for unreal reasons. Trump blamed India, China, and NATO for the Ukraine war, and projected a skewed understanding of the world. The stature of Trump's office makes its occupant influential and impactful. It is concerning that the world's top economic and military power has at its helm a man guided by values and ideas that cannot be described as rational or even civilised. Trump's is a contradictory worldview that claims to be based on an aspiration to greatness without an understanding of what makes a nation, or an individual, great. Trump has articulated bits and pieces of this faulty worldview in the past, but it is the first time he has put them together, mixing the trivial with the ludicrous, ignorance with assurance, and abrasiveness with arbitrariness. Unfortunately, the House applauded the president for his show. Countries are cutting bilateral deals with him, and the multilateral global order is being challenged. Trump's speech showed that the world's leading power has thrown to the winds the global consensus that formed the very basis of that order.

OC exemption is a recipe for chaos

The Karnataka government's decision to exempt small residential buildings from the mandatory Occupancy Certificate (OC) requirement is a disingenuous manoeuvre. Though framed as a humanitarian concession to homeowners, it is in reality a backdoor regularisation that directly contravenes a Supreme Court directive. The ruling clearly laid down that no building should be granted utility connections – such as water and electricity – without a valid OC. The exemption applies to houses built on plots up to 1,200 square feet, a category that covers a significant share of Bengaluru's houses. The government defends its move by citing difficulties faced by owners of properties on 'B Khata' sites, where houses constructed without sanctioned plans could not obtain OCs. But this justification conveniently sidesteps the larger malaise: widespread violations of sanctioned plans even on legally sound plots. The excuse of inadequate staff to inspect thousands of applications is no defence for abdicating the administration's most basic regulatory responsibility.

What is projected as relief is, on the contrary, setting a dangerous precedent. Bengaluru is already a city scarred by unauthorised constructions. Far from resolving the problem, this exemption legitimises the very disorder that the Supreme Court had sought to curb. Invoking a provision of the Greater Bengaluru Authority Act to bypass judicial intent is a troubling subversion of both law and governance. That some homeowners face genuine hardship is beyond dispute, but systemic dilution of regulatory safeguards cannot be the solution. Blanket exemptions only encourage fresh indiscipline, sending a message that violations will eventually be condoned. This not only erodes accountability but also undermines the principle of planned urban growth on which the city's future depends.

Government move will encourage fresh building violations. Bengaluru cannot afford legitimised disorder

Equally concerning is the silence on official culpability. The mushrooming of non-compliant buildings is the direct outcome of regulatory collapse, enabled by corruption and political patronage. Where were civic officials when these structures were being constructed? Instead of fixing this rot and taking stringent action against the guilty officers, the government has chosen to reward negligence, punishing the law-abiding while letting the culpable escape unscathed. The Cabinet's consideration of a wider regularisation scheme to cover bigger plots is reminiscent of Akrama-Sakrama, which was struck down by the court. Such schemes, by legitimising illegality, breed a culture of non-compliance and weaken citizens' trust in institutions. This exemption may bring short-term relief to many, but its long-term cost could be severe. It signals that violation is a viable path, with the government ready to confer retroactive approval. For a metropolis already reeling under chaotic urbanisation, this is a precedent it can ill afford.

WORLD TOURISM DAY

Tourism in India needs a people-first reset

The industry must prioritise value over volume, embrace sustainable models that also empower local communities

PRAMOD NAYAK AND VENKATESH RAGHAVENDRA

Are you one of those people who quickly turns to ChatGPT to plan your next vacation and predetermines every meal, every stop? Or the type who just lands in a new place and seeks the advice of the taxi driver to explore the area? Either way, it helps to have your antenna up for other trends and undercurrents that are prevalent right now. Especially if you want to be a "responsible" and mindful tourist.

Tourism, long hailed as an engine of prosperity, now seems to be under mounting scrutiny. Across Europe, residents are voicing frustration: in Spain, Italy, and Portugal, protesters demand limits on mass tourism; in Barcelona, videos of locals spraying water pistols at diners went viral in mid-2024; and in the Canary Islands, beach-goers were swarmed by demonstrators. India has seen similar stirrings, with locals near Goa's Anjuna beach protesting against deafening music from tourist clubs. In addition to this, there are many under-reported or unreported currents. These are not isolated events. They reveal a global shift in perception – tourism is no longer seen only as a source of income but also as a driver of environmental strain, social unrest, and inequity.

Context matters. In 2020, international tourism endured what the UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) called "the worst year in tourism history." Yet, by 2024, the sector had staged a full recovery. What returned was not just the numbers but new dynamics. Tourism became more *democratic*: rising incomes, expanded aviation routes, aggressive state campaigns, and social media-fuelled wanderlust drew more people to travel. The trend of "revenge travel" – pent-up demand after lockdowns – helped to rebound but also exposed weaknesses. Many destinations found their carrying capacity stretched, with crowding, pollution, and resource shortages becoming frequent flashpoints.

This surge leaves policymakers with both a challenge and an opportunity. The challenges are to prevent overcrowding and ecological damage, and strategise the benefits redistribution. The opportunities are to reimagine tourism as a more inclusive and sustainable sector.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a good compass. SDG 8.9 calls for policies that promote sustainable tourism, creating jobs while preserving local culture and products. SDG 12.b emphasises tools to monitor tourism's sustainability impacts. The message is clear: tourism must move beyond numbers to focus on equity, culture, and resilience.

India exemplifies both promise and pitfalls. The sector could reach $4 trillion in the next 25 years, with aspirations to contribute 10% of GDP. For comparison, the US and China already have tourism economies exceeding $1 trillion.

India has built momentum through schemes like *Hunar se Rozgar Tak*, which creates jobs by training locals. Yet, benefits remain uneven. Resorts and large operators capture most profits, while local communities – the custodians of culture and heritage – often remain peripheral actors.

A decade ago, the KVTG (Karnataka Tourism Vision Group) presented a concept called 'Tourism Infrastructure Ladder', emphasising that beyond physical assets, people themselves form the 'soft infrastructure' of tourism. Attributes like hospitality and cultural knowledge shape visitor experiences. While earlier programmes tapped this human resource, they often confined locals to low-paid, seasonal roles. Hence, a shift is needed: positioning communities as co-owners, not just employees, in tourism development.

An equitable model

Reorienting tourism requires new approaches. Tourism revenue should circulate back to host communities through cooperatives, community-owned enterprises, and transparent profit-sharing. This ensures that growth uplifts entire regions, not just corporate stakeholders, and communities can invest the revenue for capacity building. Linking crafts, foods, and traditions to GI tags can preserve heritage while boosting the incomes of locals involved. Products like Mysore silk or Darjeeling tea show how tourism and local identity can reinforce each other.

Extending affordable credit would empower small entrepreneurs and diversify ownership. Recently, the Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce has urged that tourism be included under priority sector lending. Homestays distribute income more widely while offering authentic experiences. States such as Kerala and Himachal Pradesh demonstrate how families, particularly women, gain from this model while complementing the larger resort infrastructure. Finally, encouraging locals to invest in tourism ventures – with co-financing through the government or CSR – creates economic and emotional stakes, aligning development with community needs.

International examples illustrate both risks and solutions. Barcelona's backlash shows the costs of ignoring local voices, while Bhutan's 'high value, low volume' approach demonstrates how carefully managing numbers sustains both culture and environment. Kerala's Responsible Tourism Mission offers a domestic example: by linking local farmers and artisans directly to hotels and restaurants, it ensures that tourism income strengthens village economies. In Ladakh, to mitigate the effects of mass tourism, the government is introducing sustainable options like electric-powered buses and programmes to promote ecotourism and responsible tourism.

Tourism is still a sunrise sector for India and the world. But left unchecked, it risks becoming a source of ecological harm and social conflict. The path forward lies not in shrinking tourism but in reshaping it: from being volume-driven to value-driven, from exclusive to inclusive, from extractive to regenerative.

When visitors depart, the environment should remain unharmed, culture enriched, and local communities empowered. Only then can tourism fulfill its true promise: not merely as a contributor to GDP, but as a force for sustainable and equitable human development.

(Pramod is a civil servant who works with the Government of India; Venkatesh is a global social entrepreneur and a perpetual traveller. Views expressed are personal)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

A 'cool' but clueless grandparent

Amid chores, ruckus and rules, I claimed my little victory

NAGARAJ THOTHADRI

I strive hard to be useful and supportive of my family's needs. I chip in with daily household chores, which include shopping, helping in the kitchen, driver duty and more. Otherwise, the consequences cannot be very pleasant for retired homebodies like me. Most of the time, I loiter around within the confines of the home, making sure that everything is in its assigned spot (OCD, you ask? Yes).

It was decided by the power-wielders at home that my duty would be to bring my grandson from school every day. While on this happy errand, my grandson and I had a daily ritual: he would gently steer me to a nearby goodies shop for all the delectable things he desired -- chocolates, chips, lollypops, ice creams and so on. My indulgent nature (please tell me, which grandparent would not pamper his grandchild?), coupled with a desire to be called a 'cool' grandfather, landed me in trouble. My grandson developed health problems. I was deemed the culprit, declared an utterly useless grandfather, and almost forbidden from this responsibility. Nevertheless, I have a dogged personality. Sometimes, I put up a pointless fight for equal rights between men and women. This sparked a huge ruckus, as the other senior lady -- my spouse -- joined in, making it a triangular fight. I was finished. In the end, I was told to continue with the job until a suitable replacement could be found on one condition: I was to desist from visiting the goodies shop. The shopkeeper looked at me longingly, disappointment writ all over his face, as if I were a spineless character. I feel sorry for him -- so does he!

After undergoing a spinal surgery, I had to take a long break from this duty. Once the mandatory recuperation period was over, I returned to fetch my grandson from the school, swinging a walking stick in my hand and with a spring in my step. To my shock, the class teacher standing at the school gate challenged me to prove that I was indeed the grandfather before she would hand over the child. I was taken aback – stunned by this affront from the lady, who looked at me with scepticism and suspicion!

I pleaded in my most polite tone that I was, in fact, the grandfather of my grandson. The lady remained unmoved. She demanded that I produce the child's ID. Suddenly, a light bulb went on in my head. From the depths of my trousers pocket, I fished out the identity card and presented it with a triumphant smile, baring all my remaining teeth. She appeared crestfallen. Locking eyes with hers, I summoned as much courage as the moment allowed and asked her to hand over the child to my care. Beaming with triumph, I walked away with my grandson. On our way home, this time I was the one to gently guide him to the goodies shop -- and together we savoured the most delectable, forbidden chocolates.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't take drastic measures, engage with Ladakhis

This refers to 'Ladakh flashpoint: Address the discontent' (Sep 26). The volatile situation in Ladakh, following violent protests that left four dead and scores injured, is a matter of concern. Ladakh, granted UT status in 2019 after the abrogation of Article 370, is strategically important due to its borders with Pakistan and China. While granting statehood might be challenging, the Centre could consider meeting other demands, such as providing tribal rights under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution and desist from taking drastic measures. Since 2019, the Centre has largely ignored the region, with leaders visiting mainly to address defence forces. Greater engagement with the local population is essential for them to feel cared for and counted.
K R Jayaprakash Rao, Mysuru

Use technology

This refers to 'False start: Educate, then enumerate' (Sep 25). The state government's initiative to conduct a socio-economic survey has been misinterpreted as a caste census, as evident in recent statements from religious leaders and politicians. A major obstacle lies in the government's cursory approach to the survey.
To obtain reliable data and inform policy-making, the government must harness technology effectively. Given the survey's potential to significantly impact the state's social and political landscape, transparency is essential.
Chiraag G V, Shivamogga

Keep cinema affordable

This refers to 'High Court stays the rule on movie price cap' (Sep 24). it is strange that movie halls and theatre owners are acting on their own whims, with no limit on ticket rates for movies screened in multiplexes. In cities like Bengaluru, where affordable entertainment options are limited, theatre owners have been taking undue advantage by charging exorbitant prices for movie tickets. The state government should consider the High Court's injunction seriously and review the Karnataka Cinemas (Regulation) (Amendment) Rules 2025 to determine if further amendments are needed to cap ticket prices.
A R Ravichandran, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

...Giving Palestinians a state one mile from Jerusalem after October 7 is like giving Al-Qaeda a state one mile from New York City after September 11. This is sheer madness. It is insane, and we won't do it...

Benjamin Netanyahu, Israeli PM

A camel asked a man if he could put his nose inside the man's tent to keep it dry in the rain. The man agreed. Before long, the camel had taken up the entire tent, forcing the man to stand outside in the rain.

Aesop's Fables

TO BE PRECISE

WE HAVE BILLIONS OF PEOPLE WITH BROKEN HEALTHCARE-DON'T WORRY ABOUT CLEARING INVENTORY!
TRUMP'S DRUG TARIFF
SAJITH KUMAR

IN PERSPECTIVE

The right to know is at stake

As censorship and financial pressures weaken independent journalism, disinformation replaces facts in our feeds

DAVID WALMSLEY AND TAWFIK JELASSI

September 28 is both World News Day and the International Day for Universal Access to Information – a good time to remember that if we lose our fundamental universal right to access to information, and if independent journalists lose the ability to report the facts, then our rights and democracies may vanish entirely.

Access to information is a fundamental human right that empowers us all to make informed decisions, to participate in democratic processes, and hold our leaders accountable. It's also critical for survival in a host of situations.

In a natural disaster, timely updates about evacuation routes, shelter locations, and weather conditions can mean the difference between life and death. In public health emergencies – as we saw during the COVID-19 pandemic – accurate information about symptoms, prevention methods, and treatment options helps people protect themselves and others. And in conflict zones, knowing which areas are safe and how to access humanitarian aid is vital.

Today, 139 countries have access to information (ATI) legal frameworks, and 90% of the world's population lives in a country where this right is enshrined. Just 30 years ago, fewer than 20 countries were in this club. UNESCO data shows that in 2022, 3.5 million public information requests were processed, and in 2024, that number had risen to 6.7 million. This is a clear sign that people want transparency. The global number of information requests is also increasing with the advent of digital solutions, which facilitate their processing.

But major gaps remain in some regions of the world. In Africa, data gathered in 2024 by the Africa Freedom of Information Centre showed that 29 out of the 55 countries in the region have ATI laws, but implementation is often patchy. UNESCO helped to set up the African Network of Information Commissioners (ANIC), which enables oversight bodies across the continent to communicate regularly on the most effective ways to implement and enforce ATI laws. The network also helps to raise the profile of access to information on human rights in the continent.

Access is opportunity

Access to public information is an important resource for journalists, just as journalists are essential vectors for enabling citizens to access information. Journalism has always been a key bridge between governments and the people. When officials stay silent, journalists investigate. They verify information and tell the public what's really going on. Journalism isn't just a job – it's a public service.

Behind every important news story is someone asking hard questions. Journalists make regular use of access to information laws to conduct their research and break stories that lead to meaningful change. But this crucial democratic check is increasingly under threat. Journalists face violence, censorship, and online harassment. In 2024, 70% of journalists around the world who responded to a UNESCO survey said they had experienced attacks ranging from online harassment, to legal threats and actual violence when reporting on environmental issues. Independent newsrooms are being squeezed financially. Disinformation clogs our feeds, often spreading faster than facts. The fog of lies grows thicker, while trust in truth fades.

This is what we see, for example, in issues related to climate disruption. This led the International Court of Justice and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to both recognise that access to environmental information was essential for addressing this critical issue. Because you can't protect what you can't see or understand.

So what can we do? We can urge our governments to support quality journalism by supporting independent media and fully enforcing access to information laws. And we can call out disinformation as soon as we spot it, and push politicians, social media platforms, and AI companies to be more accountable. Access to information is not a threat, but an opportunity for our societies. Today, and every day, let's all defend our right to know.

(David is president of the World Editors Forum, Tawfik is UNESCO Assistant Director General for Communication and Information)

(DH is part of the global initiative to mark World News Day on September 28, and this article is the fifth in a series published as part of this initiative)

Ties of Trust and Trade: India and Gen Z Nepal

GYANENDRA KESHRI
DH NEWS SERVICE

Over the past three years, India's three close neighbours – Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal – have witnessed regime change through large-scale protests, primarily driven by youth. There are close resemblances in the way crises unfolded in these three countries, but Nepal's case is different in many ways, and India's role would be critical in getting its northern neighbour back to normalcy and on track for development.

"Nepal's past two peoples' movements abolished the monarchy but failed to ensure law and order and inclusive governance. This third movement by Gen-Z is the outcome of such a failure," said Binod Atreya, Managing Director of the Banking, Finance and Insurance Institute of Nepal (BFIN). "While global communities are putting more thought into protectionist policies, and a disaster like Covid-19 encouraged regionalisation, Nepal expects a constructive role from neighbouring countries, mainly from India, to support the smooth economic transition and ensure stability in the region," added Atreya.

India is Nepal's largest trading partner. Around two-thirds of Nepal's foreign trade is with India. The two countries share a long and open border. Over 150 Indian ventures operate in Nepal, accounting for more than 35% of the country's foreign direct investment.

The recent violent anti-government protests have resulted in massive damage to the Himalayan country's public infrastructure and businesses. The interim government led by Sushila Karki, a 73-year-old former chief justice of Nepal, has vowed to fix the issues that led to the deadly Gen Z protests. She received support from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who assured her of all possible assistance from India for restoring peace and stability in Nepal.

Naveen Srivastava, New Delhi's envoy to Kathmandu, has met the interim government's Finance Minister Rameshwor Khanal and Energy Minister Kulman Ghising of the interim government.

"Industry in Nepal is now confronting unique challenges and opportunities. A stronger bilateral economic cooperation mechanism between India and Nepal will immensely help," said Nirvana Chaudhary, Managing Director of Nepal's largest business conglomerate, Chaudhary Group, and the senior vice president of the Confederation of Nepalese Industries.

Former CEO of Investment Board Nepal, Sushil Bhatta, said that close bilateral economic cooperation between India and Nepal would be critical to normalise the investment climate. "Restoring investor confidence must be the foremost priority. Strengthening the rule of law, maintaining peace and security, and ensuring timely facilitation by all relevant agencies are essential to create stability and predictability for both domestic entrepreneurs and existing foreign investors," Bhatta said.

The Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry estimated that the country's economy had suffered a loss of at least Nepalese Rupees 80 billion due to the recent violent protests.

The business leaders in Kathmandu and New Delhi suggested that India's support to Nepal in rebuilding its economy should focus on addressing the Gen Z aspirations and winning the trust of the youth.

"Confidence-building efforts should be pursued in a balanced manner, fostering trust among businesses and the general public alike. A high level of economic cooperation can help sustain business momentum, expand cross-border opportunities," said Bhatta.

"Irrespective of the unimaginable losses the industry suffered, the view is still positive for Nepal. India should support Nepal in all ways possible," said Kamlesh Jain, Co-Chair, India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI and executive director of Varun Beverages.

The damage to infrastructure and businesses poses a serious challenge to the banking sector and may lead to a jump in non-performing assets (NPAs). "The interim government in Nepal faces substantial challenges with restoring financial stability and boosting private sector confidence in the banking sector," said Anukool Bhatnagar, former MD & CEO, Nepal SBI Bank.

Bhatnagar suggested that the Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB), which is Nepal's central bank, should maintain strict supervision to manage rising Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) and to enforce strong risk management practices to prevent asset quality deterioration.

TIES OF KINSHIP, TIES OF COMMERCE

- INDIA is NEPAL's largest trade partner and the largest source of foreign investments. INDIA is also the largest development partner of NEPAL.
- The bilateral trade reached approximately $8.5 billion in 2024-25, with India exporting around $7.3 billion, and Nepal exporting about $1.2 billion, registering a rise of $293.89 million and $370.37 million, respectively, over the previous year

India accounts for Nepal's...

- Two-thirds of merchandise trade
- One-third of trade in services
- Almost 100% of petroleum supplies
- A significant share of inward remittances

- Nepal's transit trade, for third countries, is routed through the ports of India
- Nepal's trade with Bhutan and Bangladesh also transits through India
- Nepal is India's 14th largest export destination in 2024-25, up from 28th position in 2014
- Main exports from India to Nepal are petroleum, iron and steel, automobiles, machinery, cereals, etc
- Open borders, connectivity projects are major facilitators of India-Nepal trade
- India is the largest source of investment into Nepal, accounting for over 35% of total FDI

What is China doing in Nepal?

- China's exports to Nepal were worth $2.16 billion in 2024
- Nepal's exports to China stood at $37.11 million in 2024
- Nepal received $255 million in FDI from China
- Nepal signed an agreement on Belt and Road Cooperation with China

Nepal's economy suffered an **₹5000 crore** loss due to violence during Gen Z protests

What has India done in Nepal?

- Pledged $1 billion (grant & concessional loans) post-2015 quake.
- Extended over $1.65 billion in concessional Lines of Credit for roads, border infrastructure, hydropower, and irrigation projects since 2010.
- Completed over 550 High Impact Community Development Projects
- Supported the construction of highways, cross-border railways, integrated check-posts, airports, and transmission lines
- Funded over 4500 projects (small and large) in education, health posts, and hospitals
- Invested in building hydropower projects, cross-border transmission lines
- Signed a long-term power trade agreement
- Provided grant aid for the construction of the Motihari-Amlekhgunj petroleum pipeline

Unemployment rate rose to **12.6%** in 2022-23 from 11.4% 2017-18

Unemployment among youths in the 15-24 age group stood at **22.7%** in 2022-23.

Around **82%** of Nepal's workforce is in informal employment

India needs to help create jobs, expand skilling programmes for the youths of Nepal

'Roti-Beti' relations need a tech upgrade

K V RAJAN AND ATUL K THAKUR

Nepal has just experienced a short but extraordinary revolution led by digitally empowered youth, who called themselves Gen Z and demanded a transformation to a genuine and inclusive democracy, where leaders would be accountable and sensitive to the aspirations of the people, would end corruption and nepotism, prioritise creating employment opportunities and stop the steady exodus from the country.

The roadmap for the future remains unclear. What, however, seems certain is that Nepal will never be the same again. An essential corollary to this is that India-Nepal relations, including the trade and economic ties, cannot go on as business as usual and need to be re-imagined. For Nepal, an immediate challenge, apart from reconstruction and repair, is converting protest and disruption into sustained and markedly improved democratic governance, focusing on wide-ranging reforms and inclusive growth.

A good beginning is being made by the interim Prime Minister Sushila Karki. The process will need the cooperation of Gen Z, who are energetic, digitally empowered, but leaderless, and also not united on several key issues. It will also need the cooperation of younger generation leaders from the same political parties whose veteran leaders were thoroughly discredited and were attacked and humiliated during the agitation. The majority of them remain reluctant to give way to younger leaders.

Karki has made no secret of the urgent need for New Delhi's assistance, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi has duly assured her.

More than 70 lives, mostly of young students, were lost during the protest, while thousands were injured. Apart from historic buildings, many business houses and hotels in Nepal were destroyed. The business community, however, is showing resilience and understanding without bitterness toward the protesters. As per FNCCI, the Nepalese economy suffered losses of about INR 50 billion. India will certainly go the extra mile in assisting in the restoration of infrastructure, if required.

India needs to accept that the traditional 'roti-beti' relationship does not find much resonance with the youth of Nepal. India can take advantage of the technology hubs in its southern region to strengthen ties with the younger generation of Nepal.

Exchange programmes, scholarships, and technology partnerships between premier training institutes in Bengaluru and other cities of India and the universities in Nepal need to be expanded. IIT Madras should restart working on its plan to set up a campus in Nepal.

The Gen Z uprising underlined the tech savviness of the youth of Nepal and their penchant for social media.

In the world order that is shaping up, young talents, not only from Nepal but also from entire South Asia and the developing world, will find it increasingly difficult to study, train and work abroad. Could India summon the will and imagination to become a hub for a new integrated technological ecosystem, making a beginning by opening its doors further for Nepal's Gen Z? India needs a new vision for the region – a vision, which seeks to exploit advancement in technology for furthering inclusive democracy, improving governance and pursuing development with respect for human rights and freedoms, and thus rejects the model offered by China.

(K V Rajan is India's former Ambassador to Nepal, and Atul K Thakur is a policy professional. They jointly authored 'Kathmandu Chronicle: Reclaiming India-Nepal Relations'.)

SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

Clownfish versus climate change

These fish adapt to the conditions by reducing the overall size and the function of the liver and pancreas, writes Ipsita Herlekar

Common clownfish (Amphiprion ocellaris), with their whimsical bright stripes, are among the most recognisable residents of coral reefs — made famous by the movie *Finding Nemo*. But climate change is transforming the world, heating the seas and oceans, bleaching vast stretches of coral reefs, and leaving them lifeless. Rising temperatures not only threaten their homes but also directly affect the clownfish themselves.

Two recent studies reveal how clownfish cope with rising sea temperatures. One study, conducted under controlled laboratory conditions at the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST) in Japan, investigated how key biological processes respond to thermal stress. The other, carried out in the wild by researchers at Newcastle University in the UK, tracked how clownfish responded during a real marine heatwave. Together, the findings highlight two survival strategies- a rewiring of metabolism and the resizing of bodies.

Simulating climate change in the lab

In a study published in the journal *iScience*, researchers at OIST raised young clownfish in labs under two conditions: one at the normal reef temperature of 28°C and another at 31°C. With climate change expected to raise ocean temperatures by as much as 4 °C over the next 75 years, the experiment recreated a likely future scenario. This allowed the researchers to observe, in real time, how clownfish may adapt to the warmer seas of the future.

Clownfish are small, breed readily in captivity, and have a relatively long lifespan. These traits make them ideal experimental models for studying physiological and behavioural responses to environmental changes, such as rising sea temperatures.

At first glance, the clownfish raised in both temperatures appeared identical, with no apparent differences in size. Closer observation revealed that fish in warmer water were burning more energy—measured as Routine Metabolic Rate (RMR)—to maintain basic functions like breathing and circulation.

However, RMR rose only when clownfish were suddenly exposed to higher temperatures. Those raised in warmer water since an early age were able to acclimatise, and their RMR was found to be the same as that of the clownfish raised at cooler temperatures. While their metabolism had normalised, they exhibited changes in physiology across different tissues. The most prominent and significant changes were noticed in the liver and pancreas.

The liver plays a central role in energy storage and release. In clownfish raised at higher temperatures, genes linked to energy production became more active. This boosted biological processes that are responsible for making glucose, breaking it down for energy, generating new glucose when needed, transporting it out of liver cells, and converting stored glycogen into glucose.

The pancreas, which produces insulin to regulate blood sugar, showed the opposite trend. At higher temperatures, genes controlling insulin secretion become less active, sending fewer signals to cells, which results in less glucose being stored and more circulating in the blood.

Together, these changes show a coordinated response. The liver boosts energy availability, while the pancreas reduces glucose storage. As a result, more glucose stays in the bloodstream, helping clownfish maintain stable metabolic rates under heat stress. However, because sugar storage and utilisation are key to maintaining energy balance, prolonged disruptions from temperature changes could impact growth and reproduction.

"These biological changes may have other long-term negative impacts on fish health, so we need to expand our studies... But knowing that developmental exposure to these high temperatures can support heat acclimation, we can move forward with hope for the future of our tropical fish," says Prof. Timothy Ravasi, head of the Marine Climate Change Unit at OIST and an author of this paper.

Observing real-world impact

Scientists from Newcastle University, UK, studied the same fish in their natural habitat in Papua New Guinea during an ongoing marine heatwave and coral bleaching event. Their findings were published in the journal *Science Advances*.

They tracked 134 clownfish from 67 breeding pairs over a period of several months. What they discovered surprised them. Clownfish that were more flexible in reducing their body size had a higher survival rate. During the heatwave, 79% of dominant males and 71% of dominant females shrank in size. This wasn't just a loss of weight from stress — it involved an actual shortening of body length.

Some individuals shrank more than once during the study period. Those that shrank were 78% more likely to survive.

"We don't know yet exactly how they do it, but we do know that a few other animals can do this too", explains Melissa Versteeg, a PhD researcher at Newcastle University and lead of the study. He suspected it might be due to tissue reabsorption and hormonal changes.

The societies of clownfish are strictly size-based: the largest fish is the dominant female, the second largest is her male mate, and all the rest are much smaller, non-breeding juveniles. In these groups, growth is tightly controlled to maintain the social hierarchy.

Subordinate fish grow slowly to remain smaller than their superiors; otherwise, they risk being attacked or driven out of their anemone home. Therefore, any changes in body size in clownfish can affect their social hierarchy.

To solve this, breeding pairs were seen to coordinate shrinking in size while still maintaining the size ratio between them. Keeping this gap intact was crucial because if the male grew too close in size to the female, conflict could erupt and destabilise the breeding pair. By shrinking in sync, pairs preserved their hierarchy and boosted their chances of survival.

"If individual shrinking were widespread and happening among different species of fish, it could provide a plausible alternative hypothesis for why the size of many fish species is declining and further studies are needed in this area," comments Dr Theresa Rueger, senior author of the Newcastle University research team.

(The writer is a science communicator)

DID YOU KNOW?

Skull rewrites evolution

A million-year-old human skull suggests that the origins of modern humans may reach back far deeper in time than previously thought and raises the possibility that Homo sapiens first emerged outside of Africa.

The discovery, published in the leading scientific journal *Science*, was shocking even for the research team, which included scientists from a university in China and the UK's Natural History Museum.

Scientists reached this conclusion after reanalysing a skull known as Yunxian 2, discovered in China, which was previously identified as belonging to a member of the primitive human species *Homo erectus*.

After applying sophisticated reconstruction techniques to the skull, scientists believe it may instead belong to a group known as Homo longi (also referred to as 'Dragon Man'), which is closely linked to the elusive *Denisovans* who lived alongside our own ancestors.

This repositioning would make the fossil the closest on record to the split between modern humans and our closest relatives, the Neanderthals and Denisovans. It would radically revise our understanding of the last 1 million years of human evolution.

The skull was first unearthed in Hubei Province in 1990, in a badly crushed state and was difficult to interpret. Based on its age and some broad-brush traits, it was assigned to Homo erectus, a group that is thought to have contained direct ancestors of modern humans.

The latest work used advanced CT imaging, high-resolution surface scanning and sophisticated digital techniques to produce a virtual reconstruction of the skull. The skull's large, squat brain case and jutting lower jaw are reminiscent of Homo erectus. However, the overall shape and size of the brain case and teeth suggest that it is more closely related to Homo longi. These species, scientists have recently argued, should be incorporated into the Denisovans.

This would push the split between our own ancestors, Neanderthals and Homo longi back by at least 400,000 years and raises the possibility that our common ancestor—and potentially the first Homo sapiens—lived in western Asia rather than Africa. Genetic evidence suggests it existed alongside them, so, say the scientists, if Yunxian 2 walked the Earth a million years ago, early versions of Neanderthals and our own species probably did too.

A computational analysis of a wider selection of fossils suggests that, over the last 800,000 years, large-brained humans evolved along just five major branches: *Asian erectus, Heidelbergensis, sapiens, Neanderthals,* and *Homo longi* (including the *Denisovans*).

The findings run counter to some recent analyses based on genetic comparisons of living humans and ancient DNA, meaning the conclusions are likely to be contentious.

- Surendra Pai

Top court upholds JSW Steel's resolution plan for Bhushan Power

Dismisses appeals by former promoters; affirms NCLAT's 2020 order

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Friday upheld the resolution plan by JSW Steel for M/s Bhushan Power and Steel Limited, rejecting the plea by the former promoters and creditors of the firm in red.

A bench of Chief Justice of India BR Gavai and Justices Satish Chandra Sharma and K Vinod Chandran took note of JSW Steel's investment of nearly Rs 20,000 crore in the firm.

"We do not find any merit in the appeals," the bench said, dismissing the appeals and upholding the February 17, 2020, judgment passed by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

The judgment comes as a big relief to the steel major.

In its 136-page judgment, the bench said, "The SRA (successful resolution applicant) JSW invested huge amounts in the modernisation and expansion of the entity (corporate debtor)."

The court also noted that thousands of employees have continued to earn their livelihood because the corporate debtor has remained an ongoing concern, thanks to the resolution plan implemented by JSW Steel.

It observed that delays in implementation were not attributable to either JSW or the lenders' Committee of Creditors (CoC), both of whom had been making efforts to enforce the plan despite facing hurdles.

The very objective behind enacting the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) — to ensure that the corporate debtor continues as a going concern — has not only been fulfilled, but the entity has been transformed from a loss-making to a profit-generating enterprise.

"If, after the implementation of the resolution plan, JSW has turned a loss-making entity into a profitable one, can it be penalised for that?" the bench asked.

The court further said, "Suppose, instead of the corporate debtor becoming profitable, its losses had deepened — could it then seek a refund of the amount paid?"

The apex court warned that entertaining claims outside the approved resolution plan at a late stage would undermine the IBC's intent and open a Pandora's box. Referring to the Essar case, the bench said such post-approval claims were never the legislature's intention and likened them to "hydra heads" resurfacing.

Commercial wisdom

The court also emphasised that the commercial wisdom of the CoC could not be interfered with and cautioned that once a resolution plan is approved, reopening claims would amount to "committing violence" on the provisions of the IBC.

The court said that compulsorily convertible debentures (CCDs) issued by JSW as the successful resolution applicant are to be treated as equity.

On July 31, 2025, the court recalled its May 2, 2025 judgment that had rejected JSW Steel's resolution plan for M/s Bhushan Power and Steel Limited and ordered the liquidation of the debt-ridden company.

Acting on review petitions filed by JSW Steel and lenders, including Punjab National Bank, State Bank of India, and others, the bench observed that the earlier judgment had failed to correctly consider the legal position established by a catena of precedents.

Six killed in furnace accident at Chhattisgarh steel plant

RAIPUR, PTI: Four officials and two workers were killed in an accident inside a furnace at a private steel plant in Chhattisgarh's capital Raipur on Friday, while six others, including a general manager, sustained injuries, police said.

The incident took place at the plant of Godawari Power and Ispat Limited in Siltara area on the outskirts of the capital, Raipur SSP Lal Umed Singh said.

After being alerted about the incident at around 4.30 pm, a police team was sent to the spot and a rescue operation was launched, he said.

"The furnace was shut for the last few days. On Friday, cleaning work was underway using high-pressure water to remove the thick layer of slag deposited on the wall and roof of the furnace. Suddenly, the thick deposit of slag collapsed, trapping those present underneath," Raipur Additional Superintendent of Police Lakhan Patle said.

"During the rescue operation, bodies of six workers were retrieved from the debris, while six others were rescued. They have been hospitalised," he added.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai expressed grief over the incident and directed officials to ensure the best possible medical treatment for the injured.

Modi, Priyanka woo Bihar women voters

Prime minister unveils job scheme; Congress pitches land rights

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

In yet another sop for women in poll-bound Bihar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday launched the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojna to bolster women entrepreneurship. As part of the scheme, Rs 10,000 each was transferred to 75 lakh women, amounting to a total disbursement of Rs 7,500 crore, in one of the largest cash incentives for aspiring businesswomen.

"This is just the beginning. Once you formalise your business plan, our officers will visit you. If they find your proposal viable, an additional assistance of Rs 2 lakh will be transferred to you," Modi said, urging women to become self-reliant and help propel India's progress by leaps and bounds.

Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra poses for pictures with women in Patna on Friday. PTI

PM Narendra Modi virtually launches the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojna. PTI

'Two brothers'

"You now have two brothers — Modi and Nitish — who have pulled you out of the age of darkness," Modi said in his virtual address from New Delhi.

"It is now your responsibility to ensure that the lantern-holders (a jibe at the RJD, whose election symbol is the lantern) are never returned to power. It is the NDA government that has guaranteed your safety, prosperity, social mobility and self-respect," he added.

The fund transfer, a brainchild of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, was initially slated for launch on September 22. However, BJP leaders in the state persuaded Nitish that a rollout by the PM would carry greater electoral weight. As a result, September 26 was chosen for the rollout.

Cong counterpoint

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi, who was in Patna and later addressed a rally in Motihari, questioned Modi's pre-poll largesse.

"With elections barely a month away, handing out Rs 10,000 each to 75 lakh women is a classic example of an attempt to woo voters," she said. "The NDA government has been in power in Bihar for 20 years. Why didn't they offer this cash incentive in the previous two decades?"

Priyanka made the remarks while interacting with women workers at the Congress headquarters, Sadaquat Ashram.

"If voted to power, the Congress will ensure that every landless family in Bihar receives around five decimals of land, with ownership in the name of women," said the Congress MP from Wayanad, amid applause from the gathering. She reiterated the promise at a party rally in Motihari, where she formally sounded the poll bugle for the Congress.

"Both the NDA and the I.N.D.I.A bloc are busy wooing the women electorate, given that Bihar has 3.7 crore women voters out of a total 7.2 crore," noted political scientist Ajay Kumar.

Congress seeks judicial probe into Ladakh firing deaths

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Congress demanded a judicial inquiry into the killing of four youths during protests in Ladakh two days ago, condemning what it described as "harsh and repressive measures, including firing on protesters".

Ladakh Congress president Nawang Rigzin Jora wrote to Lieutenant Governor Kavinder Gupta, saying that the party "strongly feels" the situation could have been handled "with a little more restraint, patience and maturity".

He said he was approaching the L-G with a "heavy heart" but, in the "interest of justice and fair play", demanded a judicial inquiry.

"There is a lot of blame game going around. Some of these are targeting Congress councillors for leading the mob on the basis of a purported photograph. Nothing could be further from the truth," he said.

Jora was responding to BJP charges that party councillor Phuntsog Tsepag was behind the violence.

Leh unrest puts Delhi in a bind, rekindles Valley debate

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

The Ladakh statehood agitation's deadly turn has complicated New Delhi's post-2019 experiment in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, raising questions about whether the anger in Leh could ripple into the Valley, where statehood is a simmering demand.

Four people were killed and dozens were injured when protests demanding Sixth-Schedule protections and statehood for the Ladakh Union Territory, which was carved out of Jammu and Kashmir in 2019, spiralled into violence on Wednesday.

The unrest has since triggered a political storm in Kashmir, with both mainstream and separatist voices framing it as evidence of the Central government's failure to win trust since the abrogation of Article 370.

Chief Minister and NC vice-president Omar Abdullah was quick to link Ladakh's "sense of betrayal" to Kashmir's "greater betrayal", while the Opposition PDP's chief Mehbooba Mufti said the violence showed that "nothing has changed since 2019".

Even separatist leader Mirwaiz Umar Farooq termed the clashes "aftershocks" of 2019.

Yet, for all the rhetoric, the Valley's streets have remained calm. Public response has been muted, limited largely to sharing pictures and videos of the violent clashes online.

Analysts attribute the lack of resonance to fatigue after years of confrontation and the deterrent effect of tight security.

"For Delhi, however, the crisis has created a bind. Any move to soften its stance on Ladakh — by offering statutory protections or reopening the statehood question — risks sparking fresh agitation in Jammu and Kashmir," Srinagar-based political analyst Rameez Makhdoomi told *DH*.

He said a hardline law-and-order approach might contain the situation for now, but also "radicalise Ladakh's younger generation and give Kashmiri parties ammunition to accuse the Centre of ruling only through force".

The BJP-led Central government has so far blamed "instigators", including climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, for the violence, while insisting that dialogue through the High-Powered Committee would continue.

A deserted street during a curfew in Leh on Friday. PTI

UP: Several injured in violence over poster controversy

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

Several people, including cops, were injured as police made lathi charge to disperse mobs, which came out on the streets in Uttar Pradesh's Bareilly and Mau districts on Friday to protest alleged action against 'I love Mohammed' posters in some parts of the state.

According to police sources here, hundreds of people, who had gathered outside a mosque in Bareilly after the special Friday prayers, tried to march toward the Islamia Ground but were stopped by the police.

The crowd allegedly pelted stones and also damaged a few vehicles, prompting the police to make a lathi charge to disperse them.

Police officials said that 10 cops were injured in the violence.

The crowds had gathered on the call of senior cleric Maulana Toukir Raza, the chief of the Ittehad-e-Millat Council.

The mob also forced the closure of the markets in some old city areas in Bareilly.

Reports said that police also made a lathi charge to disperse a mob in the Mohamdabad Gohna area in the Mau district, which raised slogans in support of the posters. The situation was said to be under control, sources said.

Comply or be held in contempt: SC in custodial death case

NEW DELHI, PTI: Comply with the apex court's direction, or we know how to ensure compliance, the Supreme Court warned the Madhya Pradesh government on Friday in a case involving two police officials who absconded after being accused in a custodial death.

Highlighting "no progress" in compliance, the bench said it might consider framing contempt charges against the authorities concerned. "We will frame charges, and action will proceed under the Contempt of Courts Act," said a bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and R Mahadevan.

The Supreme Court was hearing a contempt plea filed by the mother of a 24-year-old victim, alleging non-compliance with its May 15 order.

The court castigated the Madhya Pradesh government for not taking action against policemen involved in the alleged custodial death, and transferred the probe to the CBI.

On Friday, the incumbent investigating officer said he took over the case on June 30, and on July 2, he arrested a police official who was allegedly involved in custodial torture, as revealed by the eyewitness. He said they have an eyewitness, who is in jail.

Resentment in Nair community over leader's pro-CPM stand

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

Resentment is brewing in the upper-caste Hindu-Nair community in Kerala against Nair Service Society (NSS) general secretary G Sukumaran Nair backing the state's CPM-led UDF government following the Global Ayyappa Sangamam.

While anonymous banners and social-media campaigns were going on since Sukumaran Nair openly hailed the Pinarayi Vijayan government the other day, one of the NSS local units, which are known as 'Karayogams', on Friday openly came out against him, citing the state government's stand on the Sabarimala women's entry issue and the cases still being faced by many for taking part in the stirs.

The NSS Kanayanoor Karayogam in Kochi even passed a resolution strongly opposing Sukumaran Nair's support for the CPM. Its leaders said Nair was airing only his personal opinion, and that no discussion took place in the NSS on supporting the Pinarayi Vijayan government.

Anonymous posters appeared in parts of Pathanamthitta alleging that Nair was cosying up to Vijayan for personal benefits.

Nair's support for the CPM government was also portrayed as Kattappa's betrayal in the *Baahubali* films in the banners.

Some NSS members at Changanaserry in the Kottayam district reportedly quit the society in protest against Nair's support for the government.

Family awaits return of Assam woman 'pushed back' into Bangladesh

SUMIR KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI, DHNS

On May 25, when a cop from Assam's Nalbari Police Station came to her house, 68-year-old Sakina Begum thought it was for one of the routine weekly appearances she had been doing since her release on bail from the foreigner detention centre during the Covid-19 pandemic.

However, the mother of five was taken to a BSF camp about 150 km away in Dhubri, a district bordering Bangladesh, and not allowed to return home.

She and a few others were then taken to the border and "pushed back" into Bangladesh as per a Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) order.

Sakina Begum

"As ma (mother) did not return, we went to the police station and later to the detention centre at Goalpara. The policemen there did not help us," Sakina's daughter Rashiya told *DH*.

"A few days ago, we saw on the news that she was found near Dhaka. She had been sheltered by a family there. Now we don't know whom to approach for her return," she said.

Sakina is an Assamese Muslim belonging to the Garia community — one of the five Islamic communities recognised as indigenous by the BJP-led government.

"My mother is not a 'Miya' Muslim," said Rashiya, using a pejorative to identify the Bengali-speaking Muslims in Assam, whom the BJP brands 'infiltrators'.

Sakina's husband, Khalil Ali, died three years ago.

Sakina was declared a foreigner by a Foreigner Tribunal in Nalbari in October 2012. She was subsequently kept in a detention camp in Kokrajhar till her release on bail in view of the pandemic.

"Now that Sakina has been found, we will take the legal step before the case hearing next month," ABMSU president Taison Hussain told *DH*.

SC sets aside Kerala HC ruling on cash transaction limits

NEW DELHI. DHNS: The Supreme Court has set aside the Kerala High Court's recent judgment which held that a debt arising from a cash transaction exceeding Rs 20,000, made in violation of Section 269SS of the Income Tax Act, was not "legally enforceable" under the Negotiable Instruments (NI) Act.

In P C Hari vs Shine Varghese & Anr, the HC had ruled that unless a valid explanation was provided, the presumption under NI Act Section 139 would not apply to cash transactions above Rs 20,000.

A bench of Justices Manmohan and N V Anjaria held that the view that any transaction above Rs 20,000 was illegal and void, and therefore did not constitute a "legally enforceable debt" could not be countenanced, reasoning that any breach of Section 269SS was subject to a penalty only under IT Act Section 271D. Neither Section 269SS nor 271D states that any transaction in their breach would be illegal, invalid, or statutorily void, it stressed.

"Therefore, any violation of Section 269SS would not render the transaction unenforceable under Section 138 (cheque dishonour) of the NI Act or rebut the presumptions under Sections 118 and 139 of the NI Act because such a person, assuming them to be the payee/holder, is liable to a penalty only as prescribed," the bench said.

In a September 25 judgment, the SC flagged that some district courts and HCs were not giving effect to the presumptions incorporated in NI Act Sections 118 and 139.

Man arrested for throwing acid on teacher in UP's Sambhal

SAMBHAL (UP), PTI: A man has been arrested following an encounter for allegedly throwing acid on a teacher here, police said on Friday.

According to the police, the accused was identified as Nishu Tiwari (30), a resident of Tigri village in the Gajraula police station area of Amroha district.

SP Krishna Kumar said on September 23, in the Nakhasa police station area, a 22-year-old teacher was returning home from school when the accused, riding a scooter, threw acid on her face near Dehpa village.

The teacher suffered 20 to 30% burns in the attack.

The SP said when the police stopped the accused near Kalyanpur village on Thursday night, he opened fire. The police fired in self-defence, hitting the accused in both legs.

Tiwari was arrested and admitted to the district hospital. Further investigations are underway.

J&K L-G orders reopening of more tourist spots shut after Pahalgam attack

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday announced the reopening of 12 tourist destinations in Kashmir and Jammu divisions, months after they were closed in the wake of the deadly April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam hill station.

In a post on X, the L-G's office said the decision followed a detailed security review at a Unified Headquarters (UHQ) meeting earlier in the day. "After a thorough security review and discussion in today's UHQ Meeting, I've ordered reopening of more tourist spots in Kashmir and Jammu Divisions, which were temporarily closed as precautionary measures," the post read.

Seven tourist spots in Kashmir—including Aru Valley, Rafting Point Yanner, Akkad Park, Padshahi Park, and Kaman Post—and five in Jammu including Dagan Top, Ramban, Dhaggar in Kathua, and Shiv Cave in Salal, Reasi, will reopen from September 29.

The decision comes over five months after terrorists opened fire on a group of tourists at the Baisaran mountain top in Pahalgam, leaving 26 dead. The incident prompted the closure of 48 tourist destinations across the UT as a precautionary measure.

In June, the L-G had ordered the reopening of 16 destinations—eight each in J&K divisions—after a preliminary security assessment. Friday's decision marks the second phase of easing curbs, though 20 sites remain out of bounds.

WELCOME SHIFT

Child marriages fall across India: UNGA report

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

There has been a significant decline in child marriages, with a 69% drop among minor girls and a 72% drop among boys, according to a report released at the ongoing United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

The report, released by Just Rights For Children, shows that Assam leads with an 84% reduction, followed by Maharashtra and Bihar (70% each), and Karnataka (55%).

The report, released during a side event at the UNGA in New York, is prepared by the Centre for Legal Action and Behaviour Change for Children (C-LAB). It is based on field data from 757 villages from five states, chosen to represent diverse socio-cultural settings.

The legal age of marriage in India is 18 years for girls and 21 years for boys.

Multistage Stratified Random Sampling was used to make the report, and frontline service providers such as ASHA, anganwadi workers, school-teachers, auxiliary nurse midwives and Panchayat Raj Institution (PRI) members were approached to gather village-level data.

Assam recorded the highest percentage decline due to legal action against child marriages, including the registration of 5,225 FIRs and the "zero tolerance" approach of the state government. As per the report, 77% respondents across the states reported that child marriage in their villages has either "stopped completely" (19%) or "reduced to a large extent" (58%), while 22% observed it has "reduced to some extent".

Poverty (91%) remains the most dominant driver of child marriage, with 95% of respondents in Assam, 91% in Rajasthan, 90% each in Bihar and Maharashtra, and 87% in Karnataka citing it as the primary cause.

Additionally, 44% of respondents viewed early marriage as a means of protecting young girls. The notion of preserving the "purity" of young girls was also cited. Meanwhile, 22% in Karnataka and 21% in Assam linked it to preventing premarital pregnancy.

Telangana provides 42% quota for BCs in local bodies

HYDERABAD, PTI: Fulfilling an election promise, the Congress government in Telangana on Friday issued an order to provide 42% reservation to Backward Classes in local bodies.

The Government Order (GO) said the government conducted the Socio-Economic, Educational, Employment, Political and Caste (SEEEPC) survey which has thrown light on the relative economic, social, educational, employment and political status of different castes in the state.

The One Man Commission, appointed by the state government for analysing the empirical data of the SEEEPC survey and other relevant data for recommending percentage of reservations for BCs in local bodies, suggested at least 42% quota in political representation, particularly in local bodies, the order said.

The order said the government is extending a 42% quota to BCs after considering the "exceptional situation in Telangana marked by the multi-dimensional backwardness" of BCs.

India blasts Nato chief over 'Modi called Putin' remark

Dismisses Rutte's claim as 'factually incorrect, baseless'

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
NEW DELHI, DHNS

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) Secretary General Mark Rutte drew flak from New Delhi on Friday for claiming that President Donald Trump's 25% tariff on India's exports to the United States — to dissuade it from buying oil from Russia — prompted Prime Minister Narendra Modi to nudge President Vladimir Putin to end his war against Ukraine.

Rutte claimed Trump's 25% additional tariff — on top of a 25% levy already imposed — on India prompted Modi to urgently call Putin and ask him about his strategy for ending the "special military operations" he had launched in Ukraine.

Rutte told CNN on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly that the US tariffs on India immediately impacted Russia.

"That means New Delhi is now on the phone with Putin in Moscow, and Modi is asking, 'Hey, I support you, but could you explain to me your strategy because I have now been hit by these 50% tariffs by the US?'" he said.

New Delhi on Friday dismissed the claim as "factually incorrect and entirely baseless". "At no point has Modi spoken with Putin in the manner suggested. No such conversation has taken place," Union Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told journalists in New Delhi.

"We expect the leadership of an important institution like Nato to exercise greater responsibility and accuracy in public statements," he said, adding: "Speculative or careless remarks that misrepresent the PM's engagements or suggesting conversations that never occurred are unacceptable."

Trump, on July 30, announced a 25% tariff on India, and followed it up on August 6 with an additional 25% tariff.

Modi and Putin had a phone call on August 8, discussing bilateral trade and economic relations. Putin and Trump met in Alaska on August 15, and Modi received a call from the Russian president on August 18.

The leaders of India and Russia also had a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit at Tianjin in China on September 1.

FESTIVAL PREP

A potter makes a 'diya' at a workshop ahead of 'Deepavali' festival, in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, on Friday. PTI

'Vote scam': SC bins plea challenging order dropping case against accused

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed pleas against the Telangana High Court's order quashing criminal proceedings against Jerusalem Mathai, one of the accused in 2015 cash for vote scam.

A bench of Chief Justice of India B R Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran upheld the HC's order and rejected the special leave petitions filed by Telangana government and then MLA Elvis Stephenson.

The court noted the accused was not present on the occasion when the transaction is alleged to have occurred.

Noting the discrepancy, the court pointed out the FIR indicated that the information was received on May 28, 2015 at 15:00 hours but the general diary reference showed the entry made as on May 31, 2015 at 23:00 hours. The FIR was also dated May 31, 2015.

It was alleged then MLA Elvis Stephenson was offered a bribe to vote in favour of a TDP candidate. Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, then a member of the TDP, is one of the accused in the case.

Delhi riots: HC denies bail to Tahir Hussain

NEW DELHI, PTI

While denying bail to former AAP councillor Tahir Hussain in the murder case of IB staffer Ankit Sharma during February 2020 riots, the Delhi High Court order has highlighted the 'extremely grave' allegations against him.

Justice Neena Krishna Bansal said the incident was not merely an 'ancillary crime, but a gruesome manifestation' of a larger conspiracy.

"Dragging of Ankit Sharma by an enraged mob, his brutal murder with 51 injuries, and the subsequent disposal of his body in a drain, defines the gravity of the offence," the court said.

The verdict prima facie found Hussain not only a 'passive participant' but a 'key figure' in the events.

"Viewing this incident as an off-shoot of the larger conspiracy is essential to appreciate its full gravity and the prima facie role of the applicant (Hussain) within it," the bail rejection order added.

On February 26, 2020, complainant Ravinder Kumar informed the Dayalpur police station officials that his son Ankit Sharma, who was posted in the Intelligence Bureau (IB), was missing since February 25.

He later learnt from some locals that a person's body was dumped in the Khajuri Khas nala from the masjid of Chand Bagh pulia after being murdered.

The prosecution alleged that Sharma's body was recovered from Khajuri Khas nala and there were 51 injuries on his body.

AG's tenure extended

NEW DELHI, PTI: Senior advocate R Venkataramani was on Friday re-appointed as the Attorney General for India for two years.

He has been re-appointed as the top law officer of the country effective October 1. His present three-year term ends on September 30.

Venkataramani (75) had succeeded veteran jurist K K Venugopal as the attorney general.

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Corporate Office, MESCOM Bhavana, Bejai, Mangaluru-575 004
Phone: 0824-2885795 CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

No. E-218685 Date: 22.09.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

MESCOM invites Short term tender for Manufacture & Supply of following material:

Tender No	Name of the Material proposed for Procurement	Quantity
MESCOM/2025-26/ IND0122/CALL-2	11KV DOLO Cutout (KEB Specification)	7,000 Sets

The interested eligible bidders may log on to **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **29.09.2025**

DIPR/DK/MPL/863/25-26 **Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele), (Procurement)**

For Power Related Complaints and Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

KALABURAGI MAHANAGARA PALIKE, KALABURAGI
Fax No.08472/260776, Phone: 08472/ 278675, Email Id: itstaff_ulb_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No: KMP/EE/TS-02/ 15th FC 2024-25 C.O.W /Amrut 2.0/2025-26 Date:- 26.09.2025.

KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL
TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 13/2025-26

1) Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi invites 4 tenders as per KTPP Act, 1999 and Rules, 2000 through KPPP Portal 2.0 for works in KW- 3&4 Tender bid documents under 15th FC 2024-25 C.O.W, Amrut-2.0, Reform Incentive (Component Under Amrut-2.0) scheme for 15 Days Tender.
The bid documents can download from KPPP Portal website and any information related to these tenders will be updated on www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in 2) Estimate Sanction cost: lowest amount Rs. 92.68 lakhs & Highest amount Rs. 210.00 lakhs. 3) EMD Value: Lowest Rs. 78,600.00 & Highest Rs. 2,67,000.00 4) Contractor License: 2&3 Above, 4) Pre Bid Meeting date: 10.10.2025 upto 11-00 am. 4) Last date of Bid Submission: 13.10.2025 upto 4-30 pm. 5) Technical Bid Opening date: 14.10.2025 upto 4-35 pm. 6) Financial Bid Opening date: 17.10.2025 after 11:30 am. 7) Office Address : Executive Engineer, Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi. 8) For more details visit Office Website http://www.kalaburagicity.mrc.gov.in/
Note: All subsequent corrigendum/amendment shall be published only on website and not in press. Hence, tenderers are advoised to always be in touch with our said website until the tender is finally opened.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/565/KSMC&A/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi.**

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

Tender Notification
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Karnataka Housing Board invite tenders from the eligible pre qualified contractors & willing to Pre qualify in Karnataka Housing Board through Karnataka public procurement portal for below mentioned works

Sl.No.	Name of the work
1	Construction of Minority Welfare Department, Central Navodaya Type Residential School (2nd Phase) at Siddapura Village, Bidar Town in Bidar District under PMJVK Scheme. **Work Indent No:** KHB/2025-26/BD/work_indent 633 & IFT No.92/2025-26 Date: 24.09.2025. **Amount put to tender:** Rs.7,56,73,464/-
2	Construction of Minority Welfare Department, Morarji Desai Residential School (2nd Phase) at Harthi Village, Gadag, Gadag District under PMJVK Scheme. **Work Indent No:** KHB/2025-26/BD/work_indent 649 & IFT No.93/2025-26 Date: 24.09.2025. **Amount put to tender** Rs.6,83,31,765/-.
3	Construction of Minority Welfare Department, Hostel Building (2nd Phase) at Beluru Road, Chikkamagaluru, Chikkamagaluru District under PMJVK Scheme. **Work Indent No:** KHB/2025-26/BD/work_indent 639 & IFT No.94/2025-26 Date: 24.09.2025. **Amount put to tender :** Rs.1,77,40,710/-.

Last date for submission of bids: For Sl. No. 1 & 2 : 24.10.2025. up to 4.00 PM. and for Sl.No. 3 - 08.10.2025 up to 4.00 PM.
For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Telephone No: 080-22273511/080-22100077, Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/3019/AKAR/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru**

Aeronautical Development Agency
(Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India)
PB No. 1718, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore-560017

ADA:ADV-132:2025 Date: 25-09-2025

CANCELLATION

SUB: RECRUITMENT OF PROGRAMME BASED MANPOWER ON LIMITED TENURE CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Advertisement No. ADA:ADV-132-2025 dated 12.05.2025 for Recruitment of Programme Based Manpower on Limited Tenure Contract Appointment at ADA stands cancelled due to administrative reasons.

Director (Admin & HR), ADA

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल. 33004/99 REGD. No. D.L. - 33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.-24092025-266369
CG-DL-E-24092025-266369
असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग- II - खण्ड- 3 - उप खण्ड- (ii)
PART II - Section -3 - Sub section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 4187] नई दिल्ली, मंगलवार, सितम्बर 23, 2025 / आश्विन 1, 1947
No. 4187] NEW DELHI, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 / ASVINA 1, 1947

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the 23rd September, 2025

S.O. 4305(E), Date: 23.09.2025 - In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.,), maintenance, management and operation of **NH-173 in the stretch of land from Km.116.800 to Km.149.070 (Hosadurga - Holalkere Section) in the district of CHITRADURGA in the state of KARNATAKA,** hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section(1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, **Special Land Acquisition Officer and Competent Authority, National Highway-173, PWD Compound, K.R. Circle, Bangalore 560001** in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling in the **stretch of land from Km.116.800 to Km.149.070 (Hosadurga - Holalkere Section) of NH-173 in the district of CHITRADURGA in the state of KARNATAKA.**

STATE: KARNATAKA		DISTRICT: CHITRADURGA			
Sl. No.	Survey / Plot Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (in Local Unit) (in Sq.Mtr.)	Area (in Hectare)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Taluk: Hosdurga					
Village: Beesanahalli					
1	48/1	Private	Dry	608	0.0608
Village: Heruru					
2	53/5	Private	Dry	330	0.033
				Total	**0.0938**

[F.No.RWNH-120371/14/2021-22/KNTIzone-III-I/3A]
SHAIKH AMINKHAN, Director

Finance Department
Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru
No. FD 03 BMB 2025 Date:26.09.2025

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

It is notified for general information that the outstanding balance of **7.99% Karnataka SDL 2025** issued in terms of the Government of Karnataka, Finance Department Notification **No. FD 01 BMB 2015 dated October 23, 2015** will be repaid at par on **October 28, 2025** with interest due up to and including **October 27, 2025.** In the event of a holiday being declared on the aforesaid date by any State Government under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, the loan will be repaid by the paying offices in that State on the previous working day. **No interest will accrue on the loan from and after October 28, 2025.**

2. As per sub-regulation 24 (2) and 24 (3) of Government Securities Regulations, 2007 payment of maturity proceeds to the registered holder of Government Security held in the form of Subsidiary General Ledger or Constituent Subsidiary General Ledger account or Stock Certificate shall be made by a pay order incorporating the relevant particulars of his bank account or by credit to the account of the holder in any bank having facility of receipt of funds through electronic means. For the purpose of making payment in respect of the securities, the original subscriber or the subsequent holders of such a Government Securities, as the case may be, shall submit to the Bank or Treasury and Sub-Treasury or branch of State Bank of India, where they are enfaced / registered for payment of interest, as the case may be, the relevant particulars of their bank account.

3. However, in the absence of relevant particulars of bank account / mandate for receipt of funds through electronic means, to facilitate repayment on the due date, holders of **7.99% Karnataka SDL 2025** should tender their securities at the Public Debt Office, 20 days in advance. The securities should be tendered for repayment, duly discharged on the reverse there of as under:

"Received the Principal due on the Certificate".

4. It should be particularly noted that at places where the treasury work is done by a branch of the State Bank of India, the securities, if they are in the form of Stock Certificates, should be tendered at the branch of the bank concerned and not at the Treasury or Sub-Treasury.

5. Holders who wish to receive payment at places other than those where the securities have been enfaced for payment should send them duly discharged to the Public Debt Office concerned by Registered and Insured Post. The Public Debt Office will make payment by issuing a draft payable at any Treasury/Sub- Treasury or branch of State Bank of India conducting Government Treasury work in the State of **Karnataka.**

Sd/-
Dr. P.C. Jaffer
Secretary to Government
(Budget & Resources)
DIPR/DD-C.P/2997/KSMCA/2025-26 **Finance Department**

नैनो एवं मृदु पदार्थ विज्ञान केंद्र
विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत संस्था
CENTRE FOR NANO AND SOFT MATTER SCIENCES
Autonomous Institute under the Dept. of Science and Technology, Govt. of India
Arkavathi, Survey No.7, Shivanapura, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North 562 162, Karnataka
Tel: + 91 80 2963 0090, E-mail: censoffice@cens.res.in www.cens.res.in

Call for applications/nominations for appointment of Director

The Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), Bengaluru, was established by the Government of India as a specialised centre of excellence to promote research growth in nano and soft matter sciences. CeNS invites applications/nominations for the post of Director from Indian Nationals, with a clear vision for an institution dedicated to these areas of research.

Applications/ Nominations received will be considered by a Search-cum-Selection Committee. Based on the recommendations of the Search-cum-Selection Committee, the Director will be appointed after obtaining the approval of the Competent Authority.

The incumbent will be appointed on Direct Recruitment/ Deputation, including Short-term contract/Re-employment basis for a period of 3 to 5 years or upon attaining the age of superannuation (60 years at present), whichever is earlier.

Pay scale: Pay Level 14 (Rs. 1,44,200- 2,18,200) of 7th CPC

The applicant's age should not exceed 52 years on 01.07.2025.

Applications/nominations should be sent by post to "The Administrative Officer, Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences, Arkavathi, Survey No.7, Shivanapura, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North 562 162", in the prescribed format along with self-attested photocopies of certificates in support of age, qualifications and experience so as to reach this address by within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in Employment News.

Detailed Advertisement is available at the website of CeNS: **https://www.cens.res.in**

Administrative Officer

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Division: Yadgir.
GSTIN:29BLR002252F1DR

No.EE/PWD/Divn/YDG/TS-1&3/e-Tender/2025-26/ 1441, Dated:25.09.2025

Short Term e-Tender Notification

1) Details of works: On behalf of Governor of Karnataka as per KTPP Amendment 1999-2000 Act 2000 Standard Bid Document KW-4 Karnataka Public Works Department invited item Rate Tender under KPPP Portal in Two Cover System from Eligible Agency/Contractors for following works Under 5054 Appendix-E SH & MDR Improvements (Plan) for the year 2024-25 Under Yadgir Taluka-(1)23122 and Shorapur Taluka-(1)26545, (2)26540, (3)25555 and (4)17663/CALL-4 Totally 5 (Five) works Tender Called **2) Amount Put to Tender:** Miminimum Rs 300.00 Lakhs and Maximum Rs.500.00 Lakhs **3) Contractor Eligible Details:** Civil Class-II & Above **4) Tender Procesing Fee and EMD Details:** Tender Fee, EMD & Period as per kppp portal, **5) Last Date & Time for Tender Pre-Bid Meeting:** 03.10.2025 (11.30 hrs Onwards) **6) Last Date & Time for Tender queries/Clarification:** 06.10.2025 (Upto 17.30 hrs) **7) Last Date & Time for Reciept of the tender in e-KPPP portal:** 09.10.2025 (Upto 16.00 hrs) **8) Date & Time of Opening of the Tender/Technical Bid:** 10.10.2025 (16.30 hrs Onwards) **9) Date & Time of Opening of the Financial Bid:** 14.10.2025 (11.30 hrs Onwards) **10) For More Details Contact:** Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division: Yadgir. **11) Website Address:** https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

NOTE: Any Corrections / Changes will be updated in the kppp Portal only

DIP/YDG/306/KSMC&A/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Yadgir.**

SC orders Chhattisgarh to preserve body of top Maoist leader

Katha Ramchandra Reddy was allegedly killed in a fake encounter

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Friday ordered the Chhattisgarh Police to preserve the body of top Maoist commander Katha Ramchandra Reddy, who was killed in an alleged fake encounter in the Narayanpur district.

A bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Augustine George Masih passed the order on a plea by Reddy's son Raja Chandra.

Katha Ramchandra Reddy and Kadari Satyanarayana Reddy were killed in the encounter on September 22.

Senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, representing Raja Chandra, contended that his father was allegedly tortured and killed in a fake encounter. He alleged that the police were trying to dispose of the body.

Rs 7-cr bounty

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the state police, submitted that the two persons were killed in an encounter, and that the petitioner's father carried a bounty of Rs 7 crore placed by seven states.

The bench was informed that the body of one Maoist killed in the same encounter was given to his family and cremated, while the body of the petitioner's father was in a hospital.

The bench made it clear that till the high court decided the plea alleging fake encounter and torture, the body should not be either buried or cremated.

The court also asked the HC to hear the matter on reopening after the Durga Puja vacation.

No malafide

Mehta submitted that the post-mortem examination was done under video-recording and no malafide could be attributed to the police.

The bench noted that the petitioner had moved the HC, but the matter could not be listed urgently as the HC was to go on a break, and that was why he moved before the apex court.

The court disposed of the petition with the directions.

Raja Chandra, who has been a researcher at NALSAR University of Law at Hyderabad, sought directions to the Chhattisgarh government to preserve his father's body in a government morgue, to conduct a post-mortem examination, and to direct the CBI to investigate the death/murder of his father through officers from outside Chhattisgarh.

SC seeks Raj govt's reply on CCTV compliance in police stations

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Friday, in a suo motu case, directed the Rajasthan government to provide information about the number of CCTV cameras installed in each police station across the state.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta framed 12 questions for the state government regarding CCTV cameras in police stations.

Referring to a news report published earlier this month, the bench said it was reported that as many as 11 lives were lost in police custody in Rajasthan in the first eight months of 2025, of which seven occurred in the Udaipur division.

The bench noted that efforts to procure CCTV footage from the police stations concerned proved futile because the information was denied/not provided on frivolous grounds.

"Apparently, the non-functioning of the CCTV cameras/non-preservation of the video recording and its data, is in breach of the directions issued by this Court in the case of Paramvir Singh Saini v Baljit Singh and Others, (2021)," said the bench.

The court asked the state government to apprise it of the number of cameras installed in each police station, with placement details and specifications of cameras like resolution, night vision, field of view, audio capture, and tamper detection.

The court also asked about the mechanisms followed for the storage of video data, including the period for which the data is preserved, the frequency at which maintenance activity is carried out, the escalation process in case there is some malfunction, and the process of its redressal.

The court also sought to know whether any regular audit was conducted to check the functioning of the installed cameras.

"If so, the detailed report with complete statistics will be placed on record. Whether any audit of logs and the integrity of footage is carried out? Whether there is any provision for surprise inspections and forensic validation of tamper-proofing," the bench asked.

Tirumala laddu row: SC stays HC order against CBI Director

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Friday stayed the Andhra Pradesh High Court's order, which stated that the CBI had acted in violation of the apex court's directions while carrying out a probe into "adulterated ghee" being used to prepare 'prasadam' at Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams.

A bench led by Chief Justice of India B R Gavai also put on hold the high court's observation that the CBI director had violated the apex court's directions by appointing an officer outside the SIT to probe the allegations.

Taking up a plea by the CBI director, the bench, also comprising Justices K Vinod Chandran and N V Anjaria, said that there was nothing wrong with the SIT delegating the investigation to another officer. "If SIT wants to appoint a particular officer, what is wrong with that?" the bench asked.

A counsel, representing the party, contended before the bench that the apex court's order had specified that the SIT should comprise two officers from CBI, two officers from state police, and one senior officer from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). The counsel stressed that it is clear that nobody else can be included.

The bench, however, asked, "Whether the SIT has done away with the supervision of the investigation? It is only appointing an investigating officer, who is working within their control."

Another counsel representing the respondent argued that the said officer was assuming the role of an investigating officer and his client was being coerced to make confessions.

Allahabad HC rejects Rahul's plea in Sikh remark case

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

The Allahabad High Court on Friday dismissed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's petition challenging the order of a special MP/MLA Court in Varanasi accepting a plea against him over his alleged 'anti-Sikh' remarks made in the USA a year ago.

This has paved the way for the hearing of the case against him in the special MP/MLA court in Varanasi.

A single bench of Justice Sameer Jain had earlier reserved the verdict in the matter.

Nageshwar Mishra, a Varanasi resident, had moved a district court seeking a directive to the police to register an FIR against Rahul for his alleged 'anti-Sikh' remarks made in the USA. But the court rejected the application, stating that the remarks were made in the US and were out of the court's jurisdiction.

Mishra challenged the order through a revision petition in the special MP/MLA court, which accepted it.

The Congress leader then challenged the order in the HC, which on Friday dismissed his petition.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

YOU WERE IN THE KITCHEN SO LONG, I THOUGHT YOU FELL ASLEEP DOWN THERE!
ACTUALLY, I DID!
ALL I REMEMBER WAS THAT I WAS MAKING A SANDWICH, AND I WOKE UP WITH MY FACE USING IT AS A PILLOW
I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER SLEPT SO WELL!

Hagar The Horrible

YOU KNOW, HAGAR, IT WOULD ENRICH YOUR LIFE IF YOU GOT OFF THE COUCH, WENT OUT AND GOT INVOLVED WITH THE COMMUNITY!
I DID THAT YESTERDAY AND HATED IT!
THAT WAS COURT-ORDERED COMMUNITY SERVICE!

Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

DO YOU REALIZE THAT WE ARE NOW SIXTY-THREE RUNS BEHIND?
THAT'S ALL RIGHT! WE CAN COME BACK! LET'S SHOW SOME SPIRIT!
C'MON, TEAM, LET'S TALK IT UP!
SIGH
SIGHING IS NOT TALKING IT UP!!

Marvin

WHO'S THE TALL NEW KID?
THAT'S KYLE. I THINK HE MUST HAVE BEEN HELD BACK SEVERAL TIMES
THAT'S GREAT!
OUR BASKETBALL TEAM JUST GOT A RINGER!

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LREIN

TMLAE

NAUIAG

TAOEGE

Look at this! The numbers have come unglued!
I'm going to let them know before it's too late to send it back.
3/21
THEY DISCOVERED THAT THEIR NEW CLOCK WAS BROKEN ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: COURT CHORD SLUDGE BOBBLE
Answer: Though not related, after donating a kidney to his friend, they became — BLOOD BROTHERS

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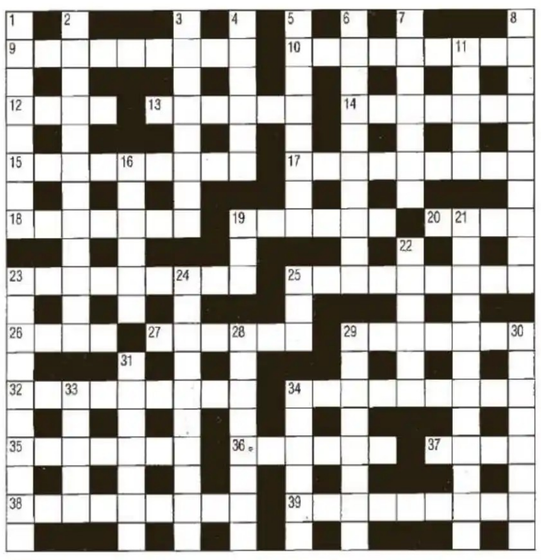
CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 4007



ACROSS

9 Six-sided (9)
10 Cancel (9)
12 Pain (4)
13 Artist's room (6)
14 Sugar (7)
15 Irritation (9)
17 Slopes (9)
18 Latticework structure (7)
19 Road (6)
20 Pudding ingredient (4)
23 Complex(9)
25 Pardons (9)
26 Victim (4)
27 Sleek (6)
29 Former remand home (7)
32 Compliance (9)
34 Battles (9)
35 Wanderer (7)
36 Waxlight (6)
37 Secure (4)
38 Story-tellers (9)
39 Rapt (9)

DOWN

1 Game bird (8)
2 Currency ratio (8,4)
3 Moments (8)
4 Promise (6)
5 More powerful (8)
6 Aquatic arthropod (10)
7 Wafer (7)
8 Economic depressions (10)
11 Oak fruit (5)
16 Colour (6)
19 Prosecute (3)
21 Noble (12)
22 Of the stars (6)
23 Work (10)
24 Projectiles (10)
25 Charred remains (3)
28 Cloudy (8)
29 Triteness (8)
30 Radio audience member (8)
31 Insects (7)
33 Keen (5)
34 Dance (6)

CRYPTIC

ACROSS

9 Bad mood I'm going to indulge (3,6)
10 Mostly, then, I'm confused and in a dither (2,3,4)
12 Have time to go first to the business area (4)
13 It's good to give fish to the sick (6)
14 Orders inside.The din is dreadful (7)
15 One's early teaching is keeping one down-to-earth (9)
17 Travelling by train, running to catch the one ten out (9)
18 Where the case is opened up, on the table (7)
19 Suffered from shock, due to the blow and wound (6)
20 Sending the food back is an insult (4)
23 Buys drinks for, when one cajoles into (4,5)
25 With sun out and warmth, he will take the cover off (9)
26 Does better than, though a little backward (4)
27 A harsh-sounding regimen (6)
29 Order the partner about as well (7)
32 Would the cha-cha-cha be suitable for them? (3,6)
34 Agitated to find it hasn't been paid (9)
35 Bowdlerise and make a lot of money from (5,2)
36 By concealing the real trouble - having blurred vision (6)
37 Going back again to the same river (4)
38 There's no way out. You must make a smaller allocation (9)
39 Make the fruit fall from the tree to the bed (5-4)

DOWN

1 See a wild tit's come in and don't move (3,5)
2 Gets angry when the hair drier is used on? (5,4,3)
3 A plus, without doubt (8)
4 Making the mistake of returning the call (6)
5 Like the great big throne? (4,4)
6 The nearer one is, the greater it becomes (10)
7 Get your money on "Halfback" early (7)
8 Can't be caned - is really good (10)
11 A hero, he went off to get mother a bouquet! (5)
16 In the character of the aunt, is miscast again (6)
19 A shooting stick! (3)
21 Having to make one's own way there is going too far! (3,6,3)
22 Round, green object the squirrel is clutching? (6)
23 Start with determination on, but can't finish? (3,5,2)
24 Not doing anything - just sitting empty (10)
25 The animals, you say, you'll put to work (3)
28 Be so active and hurry about in the nursery (4,4)
29 Bad hearing and poor visibility led to the rail crash (8)
30 Braving it out and dancing nude to a band (8)
31 Are nuts going out to take a walk! (7)
33 Says, because it's occupied by a retired clergyman (5)
34 Fearing it's not for the novice (6)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12255

CRYPTIC

ACROSS: 1, Props 6, Hoots 9, Le-XIC-on 10, Scrip 11, Lying 12, Caly-X 13, Festoon 15, Sec 17, It-CH 18, W-A-V-ell 19, Aster 20, Enlist 22, Legs (eleven) 24, Dad('s army) 25, Al-pines 26, Heavy 27, R-I've-T. 28, E-tude 29, Risible 30, Medoc 31, K-nife.

DOWN: 2, Rock-E.T. 3, Plinth 4, Sep 5, W-igan 6, Holy war 7, Ony-x 8,Tin-seL 12, Coast 13, Fine-D 14, S-C-old 15, Seven 16, Class 18, We-L-ly 19, A-s-cetic 21, Nat-I've 22, Listen 23, Geldof 25, Avail 26, Her-O 28, Elk.

EASY

ACROSS: 1, Cramp 6, Punch 9, Earlier 10, Spent 11, Latin 12, Peril 13, Strolls 15, Hen 17,Tear 18, Valise 19, Raven 20, Opined 22, Sere 24, Pad 25, Cruiser 26, Rails 27, Wafer 28, Ambit 29, Presume 30, Pansy 31, Pries.

DOWN: 2, Repute 3, Mentor 4, Pat 5, Flies 6, Pelican 7, Ural 8, Chimes 12, Plead 13, Stoop 14, Rapid 15, Hives 16, Never 18, Veers 19, Remarry 21, Panama 22, Simmer 23, Revise 25, Clash 26, Reps 28, Amp.

◆SU-DO-KU-6712◆

	9	2		6				
5								
4			8	5			9	
		4		7		1	3	
			6		3			
	7	8		4		9		
	5			3	4			8
								5
				2		4	7	

medium

5	1	6	7	3	9	2	4	8
2	9	7	8	4	5	6	3	1
3	8	4	1	2	6	5	9	7
4	5	8	2	7	3	9	1	6
1	6	2	5	9	4	8	7	3
9	7	3	6	8	1	4	2	5
6	4	5	9	1	7	3	8	2
8	3	1	4	6	2	7	5	9
7	2	9	3	5	8	1	6	4

SOLUTION TO 6711

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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U1	U1	L1	G2	G2	D2	E1		RACK 1
W4	L1	E1	L1	L1	E1	S1	4th Letter Triple	RACK 2
I1	H4	D2	C3	D2	L1	I1	2nd Letter Double	RACK 3
A1	A1	E1	E1	G2	C3	R1		RACK 4

PAR SCORE 65-75
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

R1	E1	M3	A1	I1	N1	S1	RACK 1 =	62
I1	N1	V4	O1	L1	V4	E1	RACK 2 =	63
S1	H4	A1	W4	L1	S1		RACK 3 =	24
G2	U1	T1	S1	Y4			RACK 4 =	9
							JUDD'S TOTAL	158

PAR SCORE 100-110

HITORI-3166

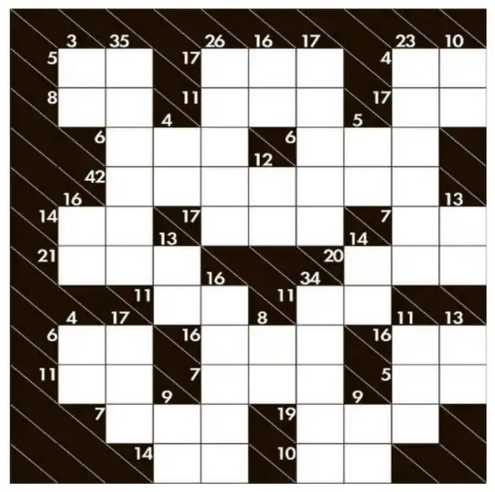
4	2	1	7	5	6	3	5
8	8	4	5	7	1	6	1
3	5	6	1	1	3	4	1
7	4	5	3	4	1	2	6
5	1	8	4	1	8	1	3
1	6	3	8	1	2	7	5
6	7	1	2	4	1	1	4
1	4	2	1	5	7	1	1

SOLUTION TO 3165

■	4	■	2	■	6	8	5
1	3	4	8	5	■	2	■
■	8	■	4	7	2	6	3
5	2	3	7	■	1	■	4
2	7	8	■	1	■	3	■
■	6	■	1	3	7	4	8
3	5	1	■	6	8	■	2
8	■	2	5	4	3	7	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3166



SOLUTION TO 3165

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3689

■						2		■
	■				3		■	
		■				9		
			■	6	■			2
			7	■	1			
		6	8		■			
	6	■			2	■		1
8	■						9	
4		5		1	9	8		■

SOLUTION TO 3688

3	1	5	6	7	4	8	9	2
8	9	4	5	2	1	6	3	7
6	2	7	3	9	8	1	4	5
7	6	2	1	3	9	4	5	8
9	3	1	4	8	5	2	7	6
4	5	8	7	6	2	3	1	9
1	8	6	9	4	7	5	2	3
2	4	9	8	5	3	7	6	1
5	7	3	2	1	6	9	8	4

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Former FBI chief Comey charged with making false statement

WASHINGTON, REUTERS: The US Justice Department filed criminal charges against former FBI Director James Comey, in a dramatic escalation of President Donald Trump's retribution campaign against his political enemies.

James Comey

If convicted, Comey could face up to five years in prison. He faces charges of making false statements and obstructing a congressional investigation.

Comey, in a video posted on Instagram, said: "My heart is broken for the Department of Justice, but I have great confidence in the federal judicial system, and I'm innocent. So, let's have a trial and keep the faith."

His attorney, Patrick J Fitzgerald, said in a statement: "Jim Comey denies the charges filed today in their entirety. We look forward to vindicating him in the courtroom."

Israel will finish the job against Hamas: Netanyahu

Slams western leaders for recognising Palestine state

UNITED NATIONS, AP/PTI

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu makes a point during a speech at the 80th United Nations General Assembly in New York City on Friday. REUTERS

Encircled by critics and protesters at the United Nations, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told fellow world leaders on Friday that Israel "must finish the job" against Hamas in Gaza, giving a defiant speech despite growing international isolation over his refusal to end the devastating war in Gaza.

"Western leaders may have buckled under the pressure," he said. "And I guarantee you one thing: Israel won't."

He spoke after dozens of delegates from multiple nations walked out of the UN General Assembly hall en masse on Friday as he began speaking.

Responding to countries' recent decisions to recognise Palestinian statehood, Netanyahu said: "Your disgraceful decision will encourage terrorism against Jews and against innocent people everywhere."

As the Israeli leader spoke, unintelligible shouts echoed around the hall. Applause rang out in other quarters as he spoke. The US delegation, which has backed Netanyahu in his campaign against Hamas, stayed put. The few world powers in attendance, the United States and the United Kingdom, did not send their most senior officials or even their UN ambassador to their section. Instead, it was filled out with more junior, low-level diplomats.

"Anti-semitism dies hard. In fact, it doesn't die at all," Netanyahu said. Netanyahu routinely accuses his critics of antisemitism. Netanyahu faces international isolation, accusations of war crimes and growing pressure to end a conflict he has continued to escalate. Friday's speech was his chance to push back on the international community's biggest platform.

Blair could lead transitional authority in Gaza: reports

LONDON, AFP: Former UK prime minister Tony Blair could take a leading role in a transitional authority for Gaza under US-led peace plans, various British media reported on Friday.

It follows Blair's involvement in discussions with the administration of US President Donald Trump and others over the post-war transitional body for the Palestinian territory.

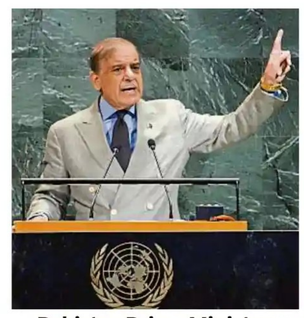
The plan could involve Blair leading the authority with the support of the UN and Gulf nations, according to the BBC and The Economist. The Financial Times reported that the former UK leader, who worked as a Middle East peace mediator formally from 2007 to 2015, had asked to be on its supervisory board.

The Tony Blair Institute for Global Change declined to comment on the stories. Israeli media reports last week about his involvement in the US-led peace plan prompted sources close to Blair to confirm that he has been working on a peace deal.

India tried to exploit Pahalgam tragedy, says Sharif

We took down seven Indian jets, says Pak PM

NEW DELHI, DHNS


Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif speaks at the UN General Assembly in New York City on Friday. AFP

Pakistan on Friday described the April 22 terrorist attack at Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir as "a human tragedy" and accused India of seeking political gains from the incident, while also charging New Delhi with violating international law by unilaterally putting the Indus Water Treaty in abeyance.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, addressing the United Nations General Assembly, claimed that Pakistan had prevailed in the May 7–10 cross-border military flare-up with India. He asserted that Pakistan had turned seven of India's fighter jets into "scrap and dust". "The enemy came shrouded in arrogance; we sent them back in humiliation, delivering a bloody nose," he said.

Indian Air Force Chief, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh, had last month stated that India had shot down five Pakistani fighter jets and a large aircraft. India's Chief of Defence Staff, Gen Anil Chouhan, had earlier dismissed Pakistan's assertion of downing six IAF jets.

Sharif, while attacking India, also praised US President Donald Trump as "a man of peace" for preventing a war in South Asia. Addressing the UNGA, he declared that "India's tyranny in Kashmir" would one day come to an end. At the same time, he reiterated that Pakistan was ready for a composite, comprehensive, and result-oriented dialogue with India on all outstanding issues.

The Composite Dialogue between India and Pakistan has remained stalled for 12 years since 2013. "South Asia requires proactive rather than provocative leadership. India's unilateral and illegal attempt to suspend the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) defies both the provisions of the treaty and the norms of international law," Sharif said. "We will resolutely defend the inseparable right of our 240 million people to these waters. To us, any violation of the Indus Water Treaty represents an act of war."

India suspended the 1960 Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan after terrorists, linked to outfits based in the neighbouring country, killed 26 people, at Baisaran near Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir. On May 7, India launched Operation Sindoor, carrying out strikes on terrorist camps in Pakistan.

Pakistan retaliated by targeting civilians in border villages and military installations in India. The cross-border exchange ended on May 10. "India sought to extract political gains from a human tragedy by spurning my sincere offer of an independent international investigation into the Pahalgam incident. Instead, it attacked our cities and targeted our innocent citizens," Sharif said.

UK to make digital ID mandatory for workers

UK PM says no job without digital ID by 2029

LONDON, REUTERS

The British government said on Friday that it would require every employee to hold a digital identity document. Prime Minister Keir Starmer's latest move is to tackle illegal migration and counter populist Reform UK party.

Addressing the Global Progress Action Summit alongside leaders from Canada, Australia and Iceland, Starmer said his Labour government had been "squeamish" about addressing voters' concerns on immigration, which allowed parties such as Reform UK to gain popularity. Starmer acknowledged that the party, led by Brexit veteran Nigel Farage, is likely Labour's main challenger at the next election, due in 2029.

"That is why today I am announcing this government will make a new, free-of-charge, digital ID mandatory for the right to work by the end of this Parliament," he said. "In the UK ... we have got a right-wing proposition that we have not had in this country before ... so the battle of our times is between patriotic national renewal ... versus something turning into a toxic divide," Starmer added.

Polling shows immigration is one of Britons' main concerns after the cost of living, and Starmer is under pressure to stop people entering the country illegally by crossing the Channel from France.

However, the plan drew criticism from political opponents.

"It's laughable that those already breaking immigration law will suddenly comply, or that digital IDs will affect illegal work, which thrives on cash-in-hand payments," said a Reform UK spokesperson.

The government said the digital ID would be held on mobile phones and become a mandatory part of the checks employers must make when hiring staff.

Britain, which has struggled with delivering major IT projects on time and budget, said it would use the best aspects of digital ID systems from Estonia, Denmark, Australia and India in its design.

Italy confirms support for EU-India free trade deal

NEW YORK, PTI: Italy's Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani has met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly session here and expressed Rome's commitment to the finalisation of the Free Trade Agreement between India and the European Union.

Antonio Tajani, in a post on X on Thursday, described the meeting as "important" and said he would be visiting India in the coming months.

"In New York, I also had important meetings with the Indian Foreign Minister @DrSJaishankar and the Commerce Minister @PiyushGoyal," said Tajani.

"Italy and India share a strategic political and economic partnership that we intend to strengthen with my further visit to India in the coming months," he added.

Stating that India is a priority country, he said, "...for this reason I wanted the 'India' measure of 500 million euros to support our exporting companies".

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Accenture cuts over 11k jobs in 3 months amid AI push

Also hints at the possibility of letting go of more staff in coming quarters

BENGALURU, DHNS

IT firm Accenture has reduced its global workforce, including India, by 11,419 in the last three months (June to August 2025) alone amid the company's Artificial Intelligence (AI) push, data from the company's earnings report showed.

Accenture had 7,90,692 employees by the end of May 2025, and it has been reduced to 7,79,273 as of August 31, 2025.

The company also hinted at the possibility of letting go of more staff in the Q4FY25 earnings call. (The company follows a September- August financial year).

The company is rotating all its talent with over 550,000 people trained on fundamentals of Gen AI. It said one of every 2 GenAI projects leads to a data project.

Accenture Chair and CEO Julie Sweet said that they are investing in upskilling employees, which is the company's primary strategy. "We are exiting on a compressed timeline, people where reskilling, based on our experience, is not a viable path for the skills we need," she said during the company's earnings call.

The IT firm is implementing a three-pronged talent strategy to rotate its workforce. It also announced a six-month business optimisation programme, initiated in Q4 for which it recorded a charge of $615 million and expected to record an additional approximately $250 million in Q1, for a total of about $865 million over the period.

"The business optimisation programme has two parts. One related to rapid talent rotation, which reflects severance associated with headcount reductions that we are making in a compressed timeline, and second, related to the divestiture of two acquisitions that are no longer aligned with our strategic priorities. These actions will result in cost-savings, which will be reinvested in our people and our business," said Angie Park, the company's CFO at the Q4 earnings call.

However, the CEO pointed out that in FY26, they expect to increase headcount overall across its three markets, including in the US and Europe, reflecting the demand that they see in business.

In FY25, Accenture tripled its revenue over FY24 from Gen AI and agentic AI to $2.7 billion. It nearly doubled its Gen AI bookings to $5.9 billion. On H1-B visas, the CEO said, "For us, this (H-1B visa) is really a non-issue because we only have about 5% of our people in the US on H1B visas and, therefore, really specialised experience and skills for our clients. So not something that is really a big impact on Accenture."

India becomes 5th country to make 4G telecom equipment

Modi to unveil 'Swadeshi' 4G stack today

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

India is set to become the fifth country in the world, after Denmark, Sweden, South Korea and China, to manufacture the fourth generation (4G) mobile technology stack.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to unveil the fully indigenous 4G technology stack on Saturday. It has been developed by Tejas Network, a core network by C-DOT, and integrated by TCS. This homegrown technology will be deployed by the government-run telecom firm Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).

Briefing media on Friday, Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said the indigenously developed telecom stack is cloud-based, future-ready, and can be upgraded to 5G.

Modi is also slated to unveil around 97,500 mobile 4G towers across the country. The Prime Minister is scheduled to unveil these telecom projects at a ceremony organised at Jharsuguda, Odisha.

Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia addressing media on Friday. PHOTO: PTI

"No part of India will be left untouched. Our 4G towers and BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) are already serving 22 million customers across the length and breadth of our country," Scindia said.

Elaborating on the 4G stack, the minister said: "It's fully software-driven, the network is cloud-based, and it's future-ready. And most importantly, it will upgrade seamlessly to 5G. 4G is behind us. We are now perfecting it, and we will be moving slowly towards converting that to 5G as well."

"We are also unveiling India's 100% 4G saturation network through Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), where close to 29,000 villages have been connected as part of the 4G saturation project," the minister added.

VW to overhaul India biz amid market pressures

NEW DELHI, REUTERS: Volkswagen Group is restructuring its business in India, a key growth market for the carmaker where it wants to invest more but is grappling with policy changes and growing competition, according to an internal memo reviewed by Reuters.

The move comes as the company faces India's biggest-ever import tax demand of $1.4 billion for evading levies, and as its market share languishes despite more than two decades of operations in the world's third-largest car market. The company has hired external experts to conduct a thorough review of its systems and processes and recommend improvements, Piyush Arora, chief of Skoda Auto Volkswagen India said in a memo sent to employees on September 8.

HUL's Q2 to be near flat due to transitory impact of GST

NEW DELHI, PTI: Leading FMCG major HUL on Friday said that while reduced GST rates will support long-term consumption, short-term order postponement due to anticipation of lower tax led to "near flat to low-single digit" business growth in the September quarter.

HUL, which owns popular brands like Lux, Rin, Surf Excel, and Ponds, has witnessed a transitory impact "in the form of disruption at distributors and retailers" across channels to clear existing inventories at old prices.

"This has resulted in postponement of ordering in anticipation of receiving new stocks with updated prices and lower orders across the overall portfolio as consumers delayed their pantry buying," said HUL in a regulatory filing.

This disruption resulted in a short-term impact on sales for the company in the September quarter.

"Given our existing pipeline inventory in the channels, we expect this impact to continue into October as well," he said.

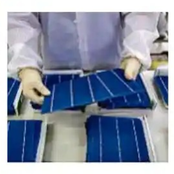
Though these reforms are expected to increase disposable income and drive long-term demand across key categories, such as toilet soap, toothpaste, shampoo, hair oil, talcum powder, lifestyle nutrition and other food items, the postponement of purchase in the quarter impacted sales.

"We expect the consolidated business growth to be near flat to low single digit for the quarter ending September 30, 2025, based on current view," the company said.

US probing Waaree for evading solar tariff duties

BLOOMBERG: The US is investigating whether Waaree Energies Ltd, India's largest solar panel maker, evaded anti-dumping and countervailing duties on solar cells from China and other Southeast Asian nations.

US Customs and Border Protection has started a formal investigation of Waaree and Waaree Solar Americas Inc. and imposed interim measures because there is reasonable suspicion the company evaded duties when bringing merchandise into the US, according to a public notice by the agency obtained by Bloomberg News.



Shares of Waaree Energies fell as much as 7.6%, the most since May, in trading on Friday.

"Waaree has in the past cooperated with the US investigations and will continue to cooperate in ongoing investigations," the company said in a statement, adding that it abides by all applicable local laws and regulations in every country that it operates.

Hyderabad pharma cos treading with caution, post-Trump tariff

SNV SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

Hyderabad-based pharmaceutical companies are cautiously navigating the situation following the announcement of 100% tariffs by US President Donald Trump, which currently target only branded and patented drugs.

Industry view this as an opportunity to step up trade negotiations with other countries, diversify export markets, and invest more heavily in complex generics and biosimilars.

Since local companies primarily focus on manufacturing low-cost generic drugs, they remain largely unaffected by these tariffs. However, Hyderabad pharmaceutical manufacturers are proceeding with caution. While the current exemption for generics protects their existing business operations, the real concern lies in whether the US will later redefine or expand the scope to include complex generics or other pharmaceutical categories.

In response to this uncertainty, several companies are actively exploring US-based manufacturing partnerships to ensure business continuity and regulatory compliance.

"President Trump's 100% tariff on branded and patented pharmaceutical imports is a wake-up call for global pharma exporters," said Ram Chintalapudi, Founder & CMD of Hyderabad-based Skinska Pharmaceutica. "While India's generics remain largely insulated for now, the move signals a shift toward protectionism that could reshape future access," he told *DH*.

Dr. D. Srinivas Reddy, Chairman of Optimus Pharma, provided a measured assessment of the situation. "The immediate impact on India from the pharma tariffs could be limited, as India is the world's largest producer of generic drugs and supplies nearly 20% of global demand. However, top Indian pharma companies have been attempting to move up the value chain with an increasing focus on patents and novel drugs," Dr Srnivas Reddy told *DH*. He explained that the new tariff mainly targets branded drugs and doesn't immediately affect Indian generic exports.

AJJI to don a suit again!

Abby and Iddi discover their grandmother's hidden talent when they spend the summer with her, writes
Vaishnavi Sridhar

Children, we are here. Excited to meet Ajji?" asked Amma. "Yes Amma. As always," said Abby and Iddi in unison. The siblings, Abby and Iddi, looked forward to going to their grandmother's house. A multi-talented woman, Ajji always had something new for the children.

"Ajji, we are here," screamed the children, ringing the doorbell. "Welcome my children. Ready for some adventure?" asked Ajji. "Yes Ajji," said the children. And they started looking around the house. Amma took the luggage into the room.

"Children, let us unpack first," said Amma. "Come here, now. Waddadose," she said loudly. She said it so fast that Abby thought Amma was scolding him. "Ajji, Amma is scolding me. She said something like 'Waddadose' very loudly," he complained.

"Art thou contented, Jew? What dost thou say? Now that is the correct way," said Ajji with full expressions. "Ajji, why are you scolding us too?" said Abby and Iddi. "Children, I am not scolding you. It is a dialogue from 'The Merchant of Venice'. It is a play by Shakespeare, a famous English poet and playwright," said Ajji.

"Ajji, we know who Shakespeare is," said Iddi. "They have started teaching one of his plays in class," she added.

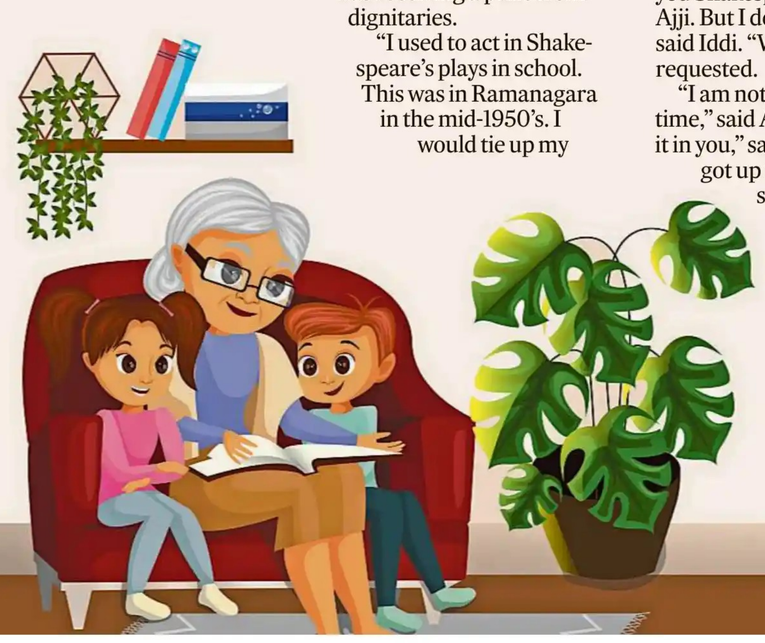
"When I was growing up, your Ajji would deliver dialogues from many plays. I thought she was scolding me too," said Amma laughing.

Ajji was the queen of thindis, songs, musical instruments, stories, and craft. And now plays.

"Ajji, you acted in plays? Wow. Tell us more," asked the children. "Not just any plays children. Your Ajji acted in Shakespeare's plays during her school days. There must be photos somewhere," said Amma.

Ajji pulled out a photo album. In black and white was a young Ajji wearing a suit and a hat. And there were many more photos of her donning the suit. In some, she was receiving a prize from dignitaries.

"I used to act in Shakespeare's plays in school. This was in Ramanagara in the mid-1950's. I would tie up my long hair neatly and tuck it under the hat. It was not very common for girls in those days to wear pants and act in English plays. It was thought to be a boy's thing. And all other actors and even the narrators were boys. Good girls did not act. Good girls did not sing, nor did they dance. But I was determined. I managed to convince my father and learned how to sing and play the veena too. I used to give music performances," said Ajji.



CREDIT: ISTOCK

"Awesome Ajji, you were a rebel. I am so inspired. This holiday, we want to hear your stories," said Iddi.

"Thank you dear. Surely. I will share my stories. Now, you said that they teach you Shakespeare right," asked Ajji. "Yes Ajji. But I don't understand it very much," said Iddi. "Why don't you help me?" she requested.

"I am not sure dear. It has been a long time," said Ajji. "Come on Ma, you still have it in you," said Amma, encouraging Ajji. Ajji got up from the sofa. She pinned her saree pleats so they looked like a Roman gown. Iddi pulled up the lesson on her tablet.

Ajji started acting. It was as if she had never taken a break. After almost 50 years, the young girl in the suit had come back to life.

Everyone was captivated by Ajji's acting. "Ajji, you should start acting in plays again. And teach too," said Iddi. "Do you still have your suit?" asked Amma.

"Yes dear, I do. But I will not fit into it. And I am too old to wear a suit and act," said Ajji. "Amma, once you set your heart on something you do it. I recall that you wanted to cook a specific type of sweet once. To do that, you went to the chef's house to get the recipe. And even asked Appa to bring the special equipment," said Amma.

"Exactly Amma. And it is never too late. And age is just a number. There are many women in our country who have achieved remarkable feats in their later years. For example, Karthiyani Amma was 96 years old when she aced the literacy exam in Kerala. Kittamal was in her 80s when she participated in deadlifting championships. Many ajjis have started businesses. There are many more examples of the achievements of amazing ajjis," said Iddi encouraging her grandmother.

Ajji's eyes lit up. Something was cooking in her mind. "Come let us go to the market," said Ajji. "Market? Why all of a sudden?" asked Amma and the children.

"To buy the materials to design my costume. And I will stitch it. I also need to practice my Shakespearean English. Then make a nice video of me acting in that costume. We will send it to those play groups. Or put it on YouTube. Maybe there will be a role for me," said Ajji.

"Yay! We are super excited for your comeback. The play company will be delighted to work with a veteran," said Amma and the children happily.

3 experiments using eggs

... and a few kitchen articles

Egg freshness test

Materials needed
- Raw eggs (a fresh one and two eggs, which are a week or two old)
- A bowl or glass of water

Steps:
1) Fill the bowl or glass with enough water to cover an egg.
2) Gently place one egg into the water.
3) Watch what happens: a fresh egg will sink and lie flat, an older egg will sink but stand upright, and a spoilt egg will float to the surface.

What happened?
As eggs age, air enters through their shells. More air makes them lighter, so the older eggs float.

Floating and sinking egg

Materials needed
- Raw eggs: 2
- Tall clear glasses or clear jars: 2
- Water
- Tablespoons of salt per glass: 5-6
- Spoon

Steps
1) Fill one glass with plain water and place an egg in it. It will sink.
2) Fill the second glass with water. Stir salt into it until it dissolves.
3) Place the second egg in the salty water. It will float!

What happened?
Salt water is denser than the egg, so the egg floats. In plain water, the egg is denser, which makes it sink.

Bouncy egg

Materials needed
- Raw egg
- Clear glass or jar
- White vinegar
- Spoon

Steps
1) Place the raw egg gently in the glass or jar.
2) Pour vinegar into the glass or jar until the egg is fully covered. Bubbles will appear.
3) Leave it for 24 to 48 hours.
4) Carefully remove the egg and rinse it. The shell will have dissolved by now, leaving a soft, rubbery egg behind.
5) Try bouncing the rubbery egg gently from a small height.

What happened?
Vinegar (acetic acid) dissolves the eggshell (calcium carbonate). The thin membrane stays, making the egg soft and bouncy.

POETS IN THE MAKING

Want to see your poetry in print?

Send in poems about the topic 'Secret life of toys' to *Open Sesame*. You may be featured in an upcoming edition. Mail your work — not more than 12 lines to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*. Entries close on October 16. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, and city. And send us a recent photograph.

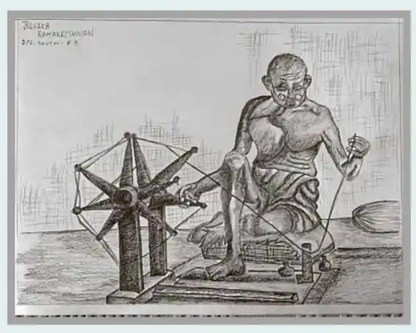
Word of the Week
waggish
(adjective)
— humorous in a playful or mischievous manner
Usage:
— The protagonist of his play was waggish and provocative.
— As a child, Shani was waggish and often got into trouble for her antics.

Gandhiji's charkha ...

Open Sesame readers share their art

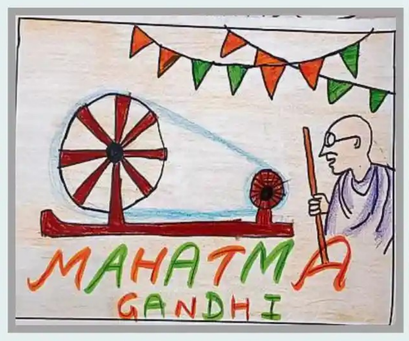
On September 20, *Open Sesame* asked its young readers to send in their artworks. Soon, we were flooded with entries from across the country. Many paintings were good, but we can only publish a few because of space constraints. Don't let that discourage you. Get creative and keep writing and painting, and stand a chance to be featured in an upcoming edition! Send your entries to: *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*

ADHISHREE NAG, 13
Bengaluru, Karnataka



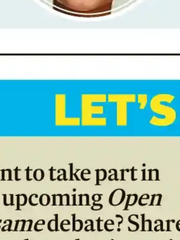
JEEVIKA, 13
Bengaluru, Karnataka

KSHITI, 8
Bengaluru, Karnataka



ALAGU, 8
Bengaluru, Karnataka

RITISHA, 12
Bengaluru, Karnataka



This Week:

Karnataka kaleidoscope

Open Sesame Quiz

Take the fun Open Sesame quiz, and stand a chance to win gift vouchers worth Rs 500. Open to children below 16 years.

Q1 September 27 is World Tourism Day. Every year, the Group of Monuments at Hampi draws thousands of visitors. Which sculpted animals, originally pulling the iconic Stone Chariot, were replaced by elephant statues?

Q2 Wildlife enthusiasts try hard to catch a glimpse of the 'Star of Nagarahole National Park'. What is the name of this magnificent, melanistic animal, whose companion is Cleopatra?

Q3 In 2010, a celebrity bought Channapatna's famous wooden toys in New Delhi, and a few years later was gifted more by the Karnataka CM. Who was that customer?

Scan the QR code
Or visit bit.ly/DHopensesame to participate in the quiz.

Q4 **Rhyme Time:** Two clues to which the answers rhyme with each other.
Clue A: Gol Gumbaz in Bijapur, has a famous whispering __.
Clue B: Fixed regular payment to an employee.

Q5 **Clue Cluster:** Which carved open flower is the footrest for the 57-foot-high statue of Gomateshwara (Bahubali) in Shravanabelagola? Use these clues:
a) National
b) Aquatic
c) Padma
d) Deities

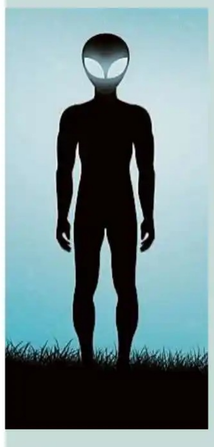
LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: Prajwal (15), Bengaluru; Gokul Krishna T A (15) Bengaluru; Mishika (14), Bengaluru.

LET'S DEBATE!

Want to take part in the upcoming *Open Sesame* debate? Share your thoughts in a crisp 200-word essay on the topic: 'Should schools start later in the morning?' Mail your works to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*. Entries close on October 2. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, school and city. And send us a recent photograph.

LETTER WRITING

Write an open letter to an alien



If you got the chance to meet an alien, what would you like to know about the universe, and what would you tell them about earth? Write an open letter and share it with us. You stand a chance of being featured in an upcoming edition. Mail your work to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, and city, and send us a recent photograph. Entries close on October 9.

Police personnel fire tear gas to control the mob during the anti-government protests in Kathmandu on September 9. PTI

Stranded in Kathmandu

IMAGING: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

DH journalist Uma Kannan was stuck in the Nepal capital during the protests that broke out in early September. She recounts her ordeal, which lasted five days

I had been planning a trip to Kailash Mansarovar for a little over a year. I was told the best route was via Kathmandu. There are other options — via the Nathu La Pass in Sikkim and Lipulekh Pass in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand — but I chose the Nepal route so I could visit a few popular spots before beginning my journey toward Kailash. Finally, the day arrived, and as planned I began my journey on Ganesh Chaturthi.

When I first landed at the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu on August 28 evening, the city seemed warm and welcoming. My plan was to visit a few places in the city the next day before moving onward to Kailash. It was my maiden trip to Kailash and I was thrilled. I was accompanied by at least 100 people from across the country, all of whom had booked the same tour guide.

As per my itinerary, I had one day in Kathmandu and 10 days in Kailash. We were scheduled to return to Kathmandu on September 8 and fly back to Bengaluru on September 10.

I had a quick visit to the Pashupatinath temple as it is a common practice to visit the temple before beginning the Kailash Mansarovar yatra. I was hoping to spend more time at the temple but was told that I would have plenty of time to do so after returning from Kailash. I had no inkling of the events that would unfold on our return.

Re-entering the city

Our trip to Kailash went as planned. Though the Parikrama (circumambulation around Mount Kailash) was challenging due to the high altitude, rough terrain, and extreme weather, we completed it successfully. Exactly 10 days later, on September 8, we re-entered Kathmandu. When we were about two hours away from the city, we stopped for a tea break. It was late evening when we got back into our bus. The driver and his helpers seemed stressed. They instructed us to close the windows and warned us that the rest of the journey would be difficult. They explained they would be taking a different route than planned as the roads were unsafe.

We were confused. We looked at each other for answers. A news alert on our phones told us that a curfew had been imposed due to the 'Gen Z protests' in Kathmandu. The city's youth were protesting against the corrupt government and the situation had escalated quickly. Police were accused of opening fire on the crowds and killing 19 in retaliation. Social media posts screamed 'murder'.

Looking out of the bus, I could see nothing but darkness. But as we neared the city, some of the passengers started shouting in panic. They had spotted some torched vehicles, and shattered glass was strewn across the road. I saw a huge crowd in front of a poorly lit hospital.

It had been a long day. Tibet is 2.5 hours ahead of Nepal, and we had started our day at 6 am Tibet time. We were scheduled to reach Kathmandu by 6 pm, but by the time we made it to our hotel in the

People light candles for the lives lost during the protests. AFP

city centre, it was 10 pm. The new route, it turned out, had no roads to speak of. It took a considerable amount of time for me to process the situation I found myself in. I longed to be in bed, comfortably asleep, but it seemed elusive.

Though I was aware of the gravity of the situation and I knew more protests were expected the following day, nothing prepared me for what I witnessed. It was loud, chaotic and disastrous. I saw buildings on fire, police firing tear gas and I heard gun shots throughout the day. My flight from Kathmandu to New Delhi was the next day and I wondered if I would be able to make it to the airport. But we got news that the airport was completely shut down. It dawned on me that we were stranded in Kathmandu indefinitely.

Later that day, when I decided to step out, it felt strange and ominous. I wanted to know what was happening outside. Periods of eerie silence were punctuated by the sound of flying helicopters. While walking down the Kamaladi road, a central location, I saw a building engulfed in fire. But I returned to the hotel within a few minutes as locals advised me not to venture further. When I got back to the hotel, one of the guests called me to the terrace. We saw the Hilton Kathmandu in flames. It was just 1 km from where I was staying. Later, from the sixth floor, we saw protestors near our hotel entrance. Hundreds of them had gathered and were attempting to set a nearby building on fire. Both men and women were in equal numbers and they carried whatever they could — lathi sticks, flags and even rifles.

While some of the guests tried to shoot videos and pictures, others were terrified. At our hotel, security was tightened. The hotel staff barred all 100-plus guests from going outside and locked the main gate. Luckily, the kitchen was stocked with all provisions required to keep us well fed. The staff had no choice but to spend the night in the hotel.

I struck up a conversation with some of the members of staff. They were shocked by the situation that had unfolded. "I never expected this to happen to my city," one of them told me. Corruption has been an issue for a long time, they shared. While the protestors had the right intentions, to rid the country of corruption, others had taken advantage of the situation to loot whatever they could, they pointed out.

Smoke and destruction

From our windows, all we could see was plumes of smoke, crowds fleeing and people shouting. We would also hear loud blasts every now and then.

In the meantime, a friend who had accompanied me found herself in a difficult situation. Her periods had arrived early. The hotel staff handed her two sanitary pads. They could not provide her with more. Desperate, we tried to leave the hotel premises in search of a pharmacy. But we were sternly asked by the security guard to return to the safety of the hotel. My friend was quite disturbed. She was prepared to make do with the wads of tissue paper we had brought with us for our trip. But luckily another female guest had some pads and offered it to my friend.

I was moved by the hospitality and care shown by two women from the housekeeping staff. One of them took the effort to reassure us whenever possible that the situation would get better.

We learnt that many tourists were stuck in hotels where provisions were scarce.

Shopping and prayer

Despite the chaos, guests thronged a small shop inside the hotel. It sold T-shirts, keychains, rudrakshas and various accessories. They were excited by the prospect of shopping. And I was no exception. The shopkeeper never expected such sales. Now, the rudrakshas had become more expensive as they were in demand by the guests. He could not get more because of the curfew.

We could not help but discuss the events unfolding outside. The guests, at least 120 of us, would meet three times a day at the hotel's restaurant — for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Often, we would end up gathering near the reception area to discuss the situation and the next course of action.

One of the guests fell sick and had to be taken to a local hospital. Luckily, it was on the night of September 10 when the situation was improving. We don't know the reason for her sickness. Perhaps it was due to the stress and fear. Later, I was told she was fine and recovering.

Deserted roads

We had spent three days inside the hotel. On the fourth day, many of the guests began feeling restless. They wanted to step out though it was risky. Nepal's Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli had resigned and the army had taken charge of security. There was a curfew between 10 am and 5 pm on September 11. Curious, we stepped out to take a look at the condition of the streets. They were deserted. My friend and I managed to walk about 1 km. We passed scorched buildings, with smoke still rising from a few.

We then decided to visit the Pashupatinath temple, about 3-4 km away from the hotel. Sceptical of walking the distance on the deserted roads, we managed to board a taxi. Of course, the fare was exorbitant for a 2-km distance.

What would have been a short and quick journey was interrupted at least five times by army personnel. The driver tried his best to take a different route but he could not succeed, so we returned to the hotel. Later, we learnt that the army thwarted an attempt by some miscreants to vandalise the Pashupatinath temple.

After 5 pm, when the curfew was lifted just for two hours, we hired the same taxi to visit the famous Jal Narayan Temple, also known as Budhanilkantha Temple. The streets had returned to normal. People had come out to buy essentials — food, groceries, medicines.

Exorbitant air tickets

Meanwhile, the airport had reopened. We rushed to book tickets for the following evening, five days after we had arrived in Kathmandu. On hearing the news, there was a frenzy. Tourists eager to return home wanted to get on the earliest flight. Some even paid Rs 65,000 for a flight to Chennai. Others booked business class tickets out of desperation. With increased demand, air ticket prices skyrocketed. Some decided to wait for a few more days for lower fares. Luckily, all I had to pay was just Rs 5,000-Rs 7,000 more than the regular fare.

The next day, after showing our flight tickets to army personnel, we were allowed to travel to the airport. As expected, it was unusually busy. We had to make it through an extremely long check-in queue. I ended up chatting with a passenger seated next to me at the boarding gate. Some miscreants had set the hotel he was staying at on fire. He panicked, picked up his passport and money and ran out of the building. He managed to reach another hotel where his friend was staying and two days later, he was returning home to the UK. He had come to Nepal for a holiday, but it had ended in misery and stress.

The Gen Z-led protests lasted six days and claimed 74 lives. AFP & REUTERS

How it began

On September 8, hundreds of Nepali youth took to the streets of Kathmandu protesting the government's social media ban. The ban was only the last straw. Decades of resentment against the corrupt government erupted in the violent protests, which saw angry mobs setting fire to government buildings, including the parliament and the PM's residence. The ban was preceded by an online movement titled '#nepokids', which highlighted the disparity between the lavish lifestyles of politicians' children and that of average Nepali youth. The protests claimed 74 lives. It lasted six days and resulted in the resignation of PM K P Sharma Oli. On September 12, Sushila Karki was appointed interim PM.

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MUSICANA

Where world music meets universal stories

Singer-composer Shubham Roy's band is working on their first album. He tells Barkha Kumari about the evolution of their sound

In a world fixated on branding and recall, Shubham Roy's band strikes one as different. They perform under various names — Shubham Roy Collective, Shubham Roy and Friends, Shubham Roy Music, or simply Shubham Roy. The shifting aliases reflect the wider approach of this fusion and world music band from Bengaluru. Frontman Roy says they don't chase trends, or release music and tour just to stay visible. They are here to create art and enjoy the process in an unhurried, organic manner.

The group has been active in Bengaluru for a decade. It has evolved from performing mostly covers, especially *Coke Studio* songs and regional hits, to now playing only original music. Their soundscape blends folk instruments with modern elements and is shaped by the diverse backgrounds of its members.

Roy, the lead singer and composer, grew up around keertans and bhajans at home and later studied Rabindra Sangeet and some Hindustani classical. Percussionist Sidharth Ravi Minaasandram moves easily between mridangam, kanjira, morsing, cajon, and drums. Sidharth Bharadwaj is a multi-instrumentalist, known for his flute work. Ritwik Bhattacharya handles guitar, piano, and backing vocals, while Milind Yohann plays bass. Shiny Das, Roy's wife, writes the lyrics.

All their songs draw from everyday life. 'Aankhi', their first single, took shape during the early days of Roy and Shiny's relationship. Built on guitar, tabla, and indie acoustic tones, it carries a raw edge. The sudden death of 'Missile Man of India' A P J Abdul Kalam while delivering a lecture in Shillong inspired their next, 'Wings of Fire'. Both Roy and Shiny are from Shillong. "It came as a huge shock to us," Roy says. The track leans on acoustic elements and features the djembe.

The rainy landscape of Cherrapunji in their home state inspired a song of the same name. Instruments like the rainstick and storm drum were used to mimic the sound of rain. "Every time it rains in Bengaluru, we are reminded of Cherrapunji. It's not just a place, it's an experience," he says. Roy hopes to create a chamber orchestra version of 'Cherrapunji' by next year.

In the coming year, the group plans to roll out their debut album. Two tracks from the album are already out — 'Dheere' and 'Kaise Kahoon'. The latter has been their longest song in the making. It began as a poem about the evolution of love in 2015 and now features flute and the udu, a percussion instrument made of clay, in their arrangement.

The album seeks to be a soundtrack for the human experience, reflecting on childhood, home, friends, growing up, love, and loss.

The band members come from diverse musical backgrounds.

'Zubeen wanted to build **a studio on the Brahmaputra'**

In a conversation with Roshmila Bhattacharya, producer Mukesh Bhatt and composer Jeet Ganguli remember Assam's cultural icon, who died recently

"I recorded 'Vidhi re' for the Bengali film 'Sheto Ajo Bojhena' with him less than two weeks before he passed," exclaims Jeet Ganguli, remembering his friend of 30 years, Zubeen Garg, who tragically died on September 19 when scuba diving in Singapore. With 'O bondhu re', their first song from the 2004 film 'Premi', echoing in his ears, the singer-composer shares that Zubeen had never turned away anyone who came to him for help, yet never spoke about his philanthropy.

"He had adopted 15 children and during the pandemic, turned his home into a Covid hospital," informs Jeet, pointing out that lakhs came to the 52-year-old's funeral — recognised as the fourth largest global gathering by Limca Book of Records — not only to mourn the singer he was, but also to honour the selfless, large-hearted man whose songs reflected a pure soul. "My father would say, 'you enter the world, alone and crying, but if you do good work, people will cry for you when you leave'. Zubeen proved it true."

The late singer, who was also a lyricist, composer, music producer, actor, screenwriter and filmmaker, started singing at the age of three. He released his first album 'Anamika' at 20, played 12 instruments and recorded over 38,000 songs in 40 different languages. 'Ya Ali' from the 2004 Hindi film 'Gangster' made him a sensation worldwide. Producer Mukesh Bhatt reveals that after over 40 unsatisfactory voice tests, someone had recommended this north-eastern singer. Since Vishesh Films has always promoted new talent, he flew Zubeen down to Mumbai. "We rehearsed with him for two days and recorded on the third. Listening to him, I told Pritam (composer), a star is born. After that, he just exploded!" marvels Bhatt, ruing that they didn't collaborate again. "His voice was magical, but you couldn't use it for love songs — he needed Sufi songs like 'Ya Ali'.

'Ya Ali' was Zubeen Garg's breakout number in Bollywood. PTI PHOTO: RITURAJ SHIVAM

Jeet points out that Zubeen was "apni marzi ka malik". He never asked questions about the song, film, his remuneration or the promotion unlike other singers, upcoming and established. He was never afraid to raise his voice for what he believed was right. He never compromised and could not be contained. "One day he just locked up his Andheri flat and returned to Assam, saying he felt stifled in Mumbai and grew into a bigger icon there," the music director points out.

Scan QR code to read Janata Juri's tribute to Zubeen

Once Jeet visited him in Assam to record a song. Around 3 am, Zubeen, who liked singing late at night, suddenly pushed Jeet into his car — which had no number plate because he was 'king' in Assam. Driving at breakneck speed, he stopped only after reaching a jungle he often visited, to eat khichdi with a *sadhu* and meet his friend Kallu. "When I learnt Kallu was a snake, I refused to get down. He finally drove us back to his studio up on a hill and started singing, since I had an early morning flight," he narrates.

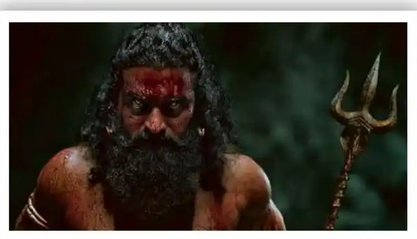
Suddenly, Jeet spotted what he thought were plastic spiders in a corner till one of them started moving. Alerted by his scream, a studio hand came running and aghast at seeing Jeet so close to them, admitted that their sting was poisonous and only Zubeen, who slept with them, had never been harmed.

"One with God, he was loved by all. At his funeral, not just his people, even his dogs, a monkey and a cow were crying. We will miss him. Zubeen loved water. He wanted to build a studio on the river Brahmaputra. He celebrated life through his music. He's gone now, mon mane na," Jeet chokes up.

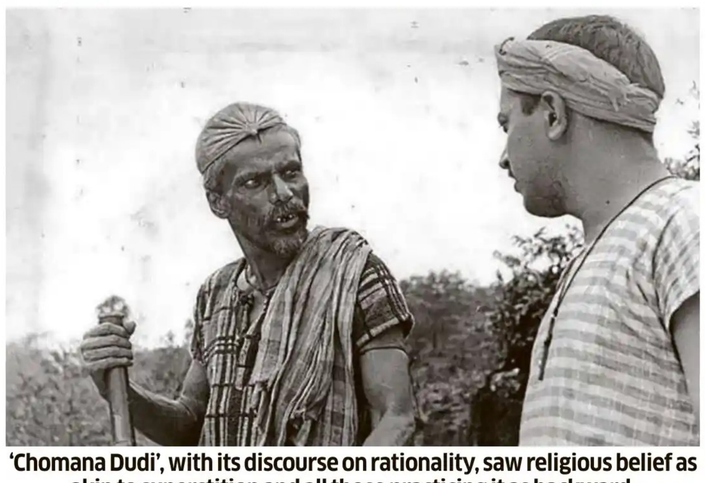
Kantara, Chomana Dudi, and the cultural trajectory of **Panjurli**

Two Kannada films, made half a century apart, reveal a striking contrast in how Indian cinema treats faith, writes M K Raghavendra

Two distant cinematic events, somehow related, have become accidentally relevant for the moment. Apart from 'Kantara: Chapter 1', a prequel of the hit 2022 film, due for release on October 2, the year marks the 50th anniversary of B V Karanth's 'Chomana Dudi' (1975). The latter is a Swarna Kamal winner for Best Film and one of the most important Kannada films ever made. Both 'Kantara' and Karanth's film invoke Panjurli Daiva a deity from the coastal belt that takes the shape of a boar though in different ways. There was some criticism of 'Kantara' from liberal circles accusing it of appropriating tribal belief on behalf of mainstream Hinduism, in the ascendant since 2014. I don't think this criticism was pertinent because 'mainstream' Hinduism is itself an accretion of various practices, many of them formerly tribal. The different attributes/names of a god like Krishna (child, lover and charioteer) are arguably due to the amalgamation of different cults with separate deities into a single deity with a checkered history. There was hence a child Krishna but perhaps not a child Rama although the latter has been consecrated in Ayodhya on the supposition that all adults must once have been children. The deity Panjurli may hence be both a local deity and the boar (Varaha) as an avatar of Vishnu.



As part of popular culture, 'Kantara' addresses a much bigger audience with belief in Panjurli. Its prequel, set during pre-colonial times, focuses on the origins of the mythological tradition. It is set for release next week.



'Chomana Dudi', with its discourse on rationality, saw religious belief as akin to superstition and all those practicing it as backward.

'Kantara' and 'Chomana Dudi' both invoke Panjurli but their attitude to the deity is different. 'Kantara', being part of popular culture, is addressing a much bigger public with belief in Panjurli while 'Chomana Dudi' is an art film that draws from an official rationalist initiative. Modern Indian literature and cinema after 1947 are products of Nehruvian policy that tried to create a modern nation founded on scientific principles. If people of my age, born in the 1950s, reflect upon the school education imparted to them as children, they immediately recollect stories or other texts in which religious practice was equated with superstition. Since secularism was also a credo in this education and the faiths of the minorities needed to be respected, Christian or Muslim belief was not similarly discredited. And it was mainly the beliefs of the majority that were subjected to such hostile scrutiny as 'superstition' — I recollect the dastardly deeds of the Vedic god Indra particularly perplexing me.

The result was that modern literature and art cinema did not have religious aspects — as literature and cinema across the world are allowed. Popular cinema and low-brow literature were different since they did not constitute what was officially defined as national culture. We therefore also had *Chandamama* and regional mythological films that defied Nehruvian policy. The mainstream Hindi cinema was more a part of national culture and for this reason there are few mythological narratives after 1947. Exceptions were only in the 'B' category — films like 'Jai Santoshi Maa' (1975) and horror cinema that deals with the occult. 'B' category cinema caters to a less educated clientele, once from the small towns, while modern literature and art cinema are only for the highly literate. We may note here that this sense of rationality as the basis of national culture was also the official policy in Communist societies. The fact that religious belief is today stronger there than rationality is one of the ironies of history.

FEEDBACK
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Nehruvian cultural/education policy, in some ways, depleted culture. The emphasis on science/technology was necessary for nation building itself but the understanding that science inculcates the spirit of enquiry was perhaps misplaced. Brahminism — with its faith in an original infallible text — had placed its emphasis on rote learning rather than on questioning and that is how science and mathematics were essentially absorbed. Ironically, many intellectuals in India, like the Marxists, also partial to rationality, treat the texts they adulate as the 'truth' rather than ideas open to falsification, implying a 'superstitious' approach to received knowledge.

Nehruvian policy, contrary to expectations, did not help inculcate a spirit of enquiry even among educated Indians but over the years its initiatives gradually lost their sheen. Nehruvian history writing, for instance, is being contested — though not dispassionately but hotly by alternate viewpoints, through assertions even more questionable. As an instance of the growing conflict, archaeology is a contested site where the Centre and the Tamil Nadu government are taking sides, casting doubt on the discipline itself. One could not, two decades ago, have imagined political parties vehemently supporting conflicting narratives of ancient India! Traditional beliefs, buttressed by politics, have also emerged much stronger than one might have imagined.

Returning to 'Chomana Dudi' and 'Kantara' — the two films represent opposite treatments of religious/occult belief. The first, with its discourse on rationality, saw religious belief as akin to superstition and all those practicing it as backward. 'Kantara' belongs to a new category of cinema that uses the services of technology to actually create a plausible world in which occult elements have a prominent foothold. 'Kantara: Chapter 1', according to the advance publicity, is a very expensive production and one guesses that much of this expense was incurred to make Panjurli seem real when 'Chomana Dudi' once told us that Panjurli was only the retrograde belief of backward people. In other words scientific advances are today being employed to promote the irrational!

(The author is a well-known film critic)

The 'Elumale' writer's attention to the emotional graph and narrative rhythm keeps the screenplay tight and the audience engaged, writes Samvartha Sahil

How Punit Rangaswamy transforms a simple story into a gripping thriller

In cinema writing, the most common question is, what is the difference between a story and a screenplay. In simple words, the story is the tale. The screenplay is the visual and aural telling of a story. A closer look at the art and craft of screenwriting tells us that a screenplay can change the fate of stories. A well-written screenplay can elevate an average story, while a weakly written one can drag down a good story.

Punit Rangaswamy

Punit Rangaswamy's debut film 'Elumale' is an interesting demonstration of how a good screenplay can turn a simple story into an intense experience.

The two main plots — a 'romantic reunion' and 'catch the killer' — by themselves are neither very exciting nor boring. It is not just the intersection of these two stories, but the construction and flow of the scenes that make the film thrilling and moving.

The first plot revolves around Harisha, a cab driver, and Revathi. They come from different social classes and linguistic cultures, yet are in love. Revathi's family disapproves of their relationship and has arranged her marriage to another man. Harisha and Revathi plan to meet in Malemahadeshwara Hills and elope to Goa. The second subplot follows the Special Task Force (STF). Acting on intelligence, they are hunting a criminal named Veera (based on Veerappan), who is planning to escape to Sri Lanka.

Harisha witnesses a custodial death and is held back by the police. This prevents him from reaching his destination on time. Meanwhile, Revathi's journey becomes entangled with those supplying AK-47s to Veera, while her brother is looking for her.

In this ambitious tale, featuring multiple significant characters, the first notable brilliance of Punit's writing is how every character's actions, inactions, and reactions stem from individual motivations. Nowhere are the characters at the service of the plot. Driven by their needs and wants, the characters both complicate and complement each other's journey. It is not easy to orchestrate this level of narrative complexity without some leaps, where the actions, inactions, and reactions of the characters are forced on them to steer the narrative in a particular direction.

The only characters who do not seem to influence the plot are Harisha's passengers, whom he is driving to Mysuru. The delay in reaching Mysuru and an accident with a pig have a bearing on the plot. It could have been achieved without giving much screen time to the passenger characters. But how even these peripheral characters are used to make the narrative effective is noteworthy.

'Elumale' opens with Harisha and Revathi worried, and the CID and STF alerted. Since the film is a thriller, the emotional graph must peak at a later stage, and the tension built should not feel monotonous. The writer uses the passenger characters to add humour to deal with this challenge. It softens the early tension and also ensures that the upcoming tension and the build-up to the climax do not lose impact.

Even in the second act, to ensure the 'marginal utility' is not lost, the writer peppers humour, and balances tender and charged emotions. This constant swinging keeps the curiosity alive and also creates breathing space for the intensity of emotions. Interestingly, in the second half, songs are used to continue the pendulum effect. The writer's attention to the emotional graph and the narrative rhythm keeps the screenplay tight and the audience engaged.

Punit builds almost every scene in a 3-act structure. He rations information and beat points to create intrigue. At crucial points, Punit ends the scenes with cliffhangers, switches to a parallel thread and returns to the same after a scene or two to sustain tension.

The taut dialogue writing also deserves a mention. The dialogues are focused yet spontaneous. The scene where a cop stops Harisha at the checkpost is a beautiful example of using dialogue to create beat moments while advancing the narrative. An inciting incident, a key moment in the film, particularly demonstrates the strength of dialogue writing. Equally worth noting is how different dialects of Kannada have been assigned to different characters, and the diverse nature of Kannada has been respected.

The plot genotype of 'Elumale' is that of the 'Romeo and Juliet'. However, the way Punit reimagines the trope and turns it into a thriller shows his grip over constructing narratives. *(The author teaches screenwriting at FTII, Pune)*

Raana and Priyanka Achar play the lead pair in 'Elumale'.

MOVIE REVIEWS

Poignant tale of friendship in polarised India

RAJIV VIJAYAKAR

★★★★½

Homebound

Hindi (Theatres)

Director: Neeraj Ghaywan

Cast: Ishaan Khatter, Janhvi Kapoor, Vishal Jethwa, Reem Shaikh

Neeraj Ghaywan's 'Homebound' — now India's official entry to the Oscars — discusses Islamophobia and discrimination against Dalits in modern India.

Chandan (Vishal Jethwa) is a Dalit who prefers to hide his caste. He lives in a small north Indian town. His sister Vaishali (Harshika Parmar) is forced to earn as Chandan is awaiting a police job. He believes the job will earn them more respect in society. He also dreams of marrying Sudha Bharti (Janhvi Kapoor), who is from an upper-caste family and is also in love with him.

Janhvi Kapoor, Vishal Jethwa and Ishan Khatter.

His close friend Shoaib (Ishaan Khatter) is repeatedly targeted because of his religion. Things take a dramatic turn and the two friends eke out a modest existence in Surat. All is well until the pandemic strikes and they are left jobless (and without money) and are forced to trek back home. That's when their bonding is tested — such friendship is a powerful metaphor for an idyllic India.

Ghaywan renders a heartwarming story that explores life in compromise, dignity of labour, the lack of basic human empathy, and the ironies of our system. Without being preachy, the film calls out our collective conscience and tells us to be more human.

Ishaan Khatter delivers a commendable performance, beautifully capturing innocence, vulnerability, and determination. Vishal Jethwa is exceptional as the frustrated Chandan, who longs for Shoaib's mother's biryani while walking a hundred miles to his distant home. Janhvi Kapoor makes the most of her brief screen time. The film also stands out technically.

It is a story that resonates from Bikaner to Boston and beyond. And *Inshallah*, may bring India its first Oscar.

One battle, endless chaos

AMOGH RAVINDRA

★★★★½

One Battle After Another

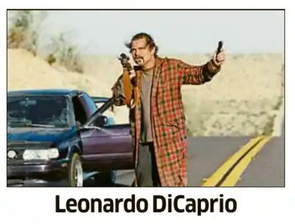
English (Theatres)

Director: Paul T Anderson

Cast: Leonardo DiCaprio, Sean Penn, Benicio del Toro

After the not-so-delectable 'Licorice Pizza' (2021), Paul Thomas Anderson comes roaring back with 'One Battle After Another'. Based on Thomas Pynchon's novel 'Vineland', it follows Leonardo DiCaprio stumbling into a revolution, losing his way more than once, and fighting for his daughter through chaos, comedy and bullets.

The story begins at Otay Mesa, where activist group French 75 storms an immigration detention centre. Their leader Perfidia Beverly Hills (Teyana Taylor) humiliates Colonel Steven Lockjaw (Sean Penn) in front of his men, sparking an obsession that fuels the story. Sixteen years, later Bob Ferguson (DiCaprio) is no longer a fiery revolutionary but a weary single father, raising his daughter Willa (Chase Infiniti) while still entangled in the struggle. When Lockjaw's forces close in again, Bob leans on allies like Deandra (Regina Hall) and martial arts sensei Sergio St Carlos (Benicio del Toro) to keep Willa safe. Anderson frames each clash as both a political spectacle and a personal reckoning.



Leonardo DiCaprio

DiCaprio slips easily into Bob, balancing weariness with flashes of raw emotion, while Chase Infiniti shines as Willa. Penn is unhinged and unforgettable as Lockjaw, chewing every scene with reptilian menace. Del Toro, as expected, is terrific as Sergio, blending sly humour with grounded wisdom. Teyana adds fire as Perfidia, while Regina gives sturdy support as Deandra.

With Anderson's sharp screenplay, Michael Bauman's sweeping VistaVision frames, and Jonny Greenwood's score pounding like an anxious piano, the film never lets up. This is Anderson in full flow, mixing political bite with pulpy fun and grounding it in a tender father-daughter story. One battle after another, he delivers a film that fights, flares and refuses to be forgotten.

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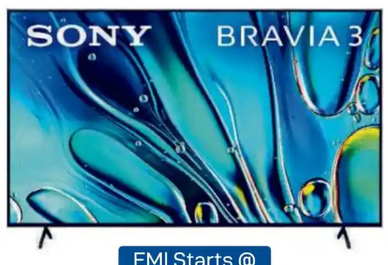

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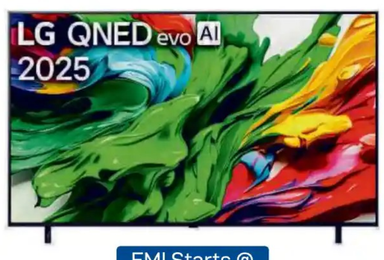

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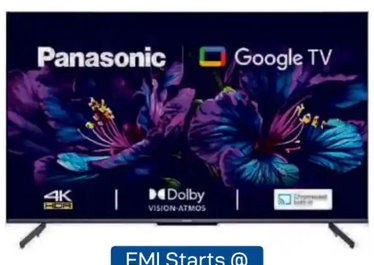

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Keerthana Pandian

State's Keerthana storms into final

BENGALURU, DHNS: Karnataka's Keerthana Pandian came up with a gritty effort to show reigning champion Amee Kamani the door in the women's semifinals of the National 6-Red Snooker Championships in Dehradun on Friday.

Keerthana's scored a 4-1 win over Amee to set up a final date with Anupama Ramachandran, the reigning Asian snooker champion.

Results (semifinals): Men: Pushpender Singh (Rlys) bt Digvijay Kadian (Har) 6-2; Dhvaj Haria (PSPB) bt Brijesh Damani (PSPB) 6-3.
Women: Keerthana Pandian (Kar) bt Amee Kamani (MP) 4-1; Anupama Ramachandran (TN) bt Ishika Shah (MP) 4-1.

Arnav, Tamanna clinch titles

BENGALURU, DHNS: Arnav Mithun and Tamanna Nerlaje clinched the boys' and girls' singles titles respectively in the 8th JTTA State-ranking table tennis tournament at the BMS Engineering College here on Friday.

LOCAL TABLE TENNIS

Results (all finals): Boys: Arnav Mithun bt Sharvil Karambelkar 12-10, 11-7, 9-11, 8-11, 11-6. **Girls:** Tamanna Nerlaje bt Samanvi Sandeep Katambale 11-9, 14-12, 6-11, 11-9.

Arnav Mithun (left) and Tamanna Nerlaje.

FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

Villa snap their winless streak

Skipper McGinn's strike enough to beat Bologna; Rangers beaten by Genk

BIRMINGHAM, AFP

Aston Villa ended their winless run by beating Bologna 1-0 to open their Europa League campaign, while Rangers manager Russell Martin's job was placed into peril by a 1-0 home defeat to Genk on Thursday.

Despite failing to win any of their first five Premier League games, Villa had been installed as pre-tournament favourites for the Europa League.

The English side reached the quarterfinals of the Champions League last season, losing narrowly to eventual winners Paris Saint Germain, and in Unai Emery have a manager who has won the Europa League four times during spells at Sevilla and Villarreal.

A feeling all is not well in the Villa camp was evidenced by Emery labelling his players "lazy" after failing to beat 10-man Sunderland on Sunday, while sporting director Monchi left the club this week.

However, they did enough to get the better of the Coppa Italia winners thanks to captain John McGinn's early strike.

John McGinn celebrates scoring Aston Villa's opening goal in the 13th minute against Bologna at the Villa Park in Birmingham on Thursday. AFP

The Scotland international fired into the bottom corner from the edge of the area on 13 minutes.

Ollie Watkins was left on the bench after his scoreless start to the campaign and failed to break his drought even from the penalty spot in the second half.

The England international's tame spot-kick was easily saved by Lukasz Skorupski.

Villa could have been made to pay when Santiago Castro headed against the bar.

But just as when the sides met in the Champions League last season, Bologna's trip to Villa Park ended in defeat.

Oh no for Rangers

Rangers boss Martin was met with more chants for his exit after the Scottish giants' latest disappointing result at Ibrox.

Mohamed Diomande's red card just before half-time for a wild challenge gave the home side a mountain to climb.

Former Celtic striker Oh Hyeon-Gyu had a mixed return to Glasgow as his penalty in first-half stoppage time was saved by Jack Butland.

But the South Korean international grabbed the only goal with a composed finish 10 minutes into the second period.

Results: Go Ahead Eagles: 0 It to FCSB: 1 (Miculescu 13th); Lille: 2 (Igamane 54th, Giroud 80th) bt Brann: 1 (Magnusson 60th); Aston Villa: 1 (McGinn 13th) bt Bologna: 0; Ferencvaros: 1 (Pesic 90th+4) drew with Viktoria Plzen: 1 (Durosinmi 16th); Rangers: 0 It to Genk: 1 (Oh 55th); Red Bull Salzburg: 0 It to Porto: 1 (Gomes 90th+3); Stuttgart: 2 (Bouanani 51st, El Khannouss 68th) bt Celta Vigo: 1 (Iglesias 86th); Utrecht: 0 It to Lyon: 1 (Tessmann 75th); Young Boys: 1 (Janko 25th) It to Panathinaikos: 4 (Swiderski 10th, Zaroury 13th, 19th, 68th).

Lewandowski charge rescues Barca over Oviedo

OVIEDO 9SPAIN), AFP: Headers from Robert Lewandowski and Ronald Araujo helped Barcelona make a 3-1 comeback victory at minnows Real Oviedo on Thursday in La Liga.

The Catalans, who fell behind after a mistake from goalkeeper Joan Garcia allowed Alberto Reina to score the opener from 40 yards out, levelled through Eric Garcia early in the second half.

Substitute Lewandowski nodded Hansi Flick's side in front and Araujo made the game safe late on as he headed home Marcus Rashford's corner.

Barcelona, second in the table, trail leaders Real Madrid by two points after Xabi Alonso's side maintained their 100 percent start with a win at Levante on Tuesday.

Despite missing star winger Lamine Yamal, Barca recorded their fourth consecutive victory across all competitions without the teenager.

Results: Osasuna: 1 (Munoz 10th) drew with Elche 1 (Pedrosa 90th+2); Real Oviedo: 1 (Reina 33rd) It to Barcelona: 3 (Eric Garcia 56th, Lewandowski 70th, Araujo 88th).

Focus on sprinters at Open Nationals

RANCHI, PTI

The focus will be on the sprinters at the 64th National Open Athletics Championships starting here on Saturday, as the national federation will pick the probables for the 4x100m relay squad for the 2026 Asian Games based on the performances of the four-day meet.

Odisha sprinter Animesh Kujur, the national record holder in both the 100m and 200m, will, however, skip the meet as he took part in the recent World Championships in Tokyo.

"Probables in 100m in men and women group will be shortlisted for the national 4x100m relay squad in preparation for the 2026 Asian Games," said chief national athletics coach Radhakrishnan Nair.

In addition to the top six to be picked during the championships, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) will add two more athletes in the 4x100m relay group based on the overall performance in 2025, said Nair.

Meanwhile, 40 athletes have registered for the men's 100m event. Tamil Nadu's Ragul Kumar G, Army's former national record holder Manikanta Hoblidhar **(in pic)** and Amlan Borgohain, representing Railways.

Kaif, Daniyal star in SUFC win

BENGALURU, DHNS: Following a goalless first-half, Mohammed Kaif and Makak Mayum Daniyal scored a goal each in quick succession to propel South United FC to a 2-0 win over Bangalore City FC in the KSFA Super Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Friday.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

Kaif broke the deadlock in the 64th minute before Daniyal doubled SUFC's lead two minutes later (66th). BCFC could do little in the remainder of the match as SUFC defended well to walk away with a victory.

Results: Sporting Club Bengaluru: 1 (Nishanth S 36th) bt FC Agniputhra: 0; Kickstart FC: 2 (Saikhom Borish Singh 18th, Ngairangbam Rakesh Singh 54th) drew with Kodagu FC: 2 (Subrahmanian 66th OG, Muhammed Unais 90th+5); SUFC: 2 (Mohammed Kaif 64th, Makak Mayum Daniyal 66th) bt Bangalore City FC: 0.

Kodagu FC's Muhammed Unais (left) attempts to score past Kickstart FC Kabir Toufik during their KSFA Super Division League Championship game on Friday. DH PHOTO/ PUSHKAR V

India hope to shine as biggest para Worlds kick off

NEW DELHI, PTI

Some of the globe's best para athletes, including blade runners, prosthetic jumpers and wheelchair-bound competitors, will showcase their awe-inspiring grit and resilience on the sporting field when the biggest ever World Para Athletics Championships begin here on Saturday.

India, a rising power in para sports, including para athletics, has rolled out top-class facilities for the 12th edition of the showpiece, which will run till October 5 at the iconic Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

With 2200 athletes and officials from 104 countries participating in the nine-day showpiece, the New Delhi edition is the biggest in history, with India joining Qatar (2015), UAE (2019) and Japan (2024) as the fourth nation to host the prestigious event.

The para athletes, numbering over 1500, will compete across 186 medal events, 15 more than the 2024 edition in Kobe, Japan.

The championships promise top-class performances as over 100 medallists who altogether won 308 medals in Paris Paralympics are set to test their mettle on the stage.

Don't Miss Tomorrow's DH on Sunday

DECCAN HERALD

BIG PICTURE — Is the art of translation akin to cooking?
BOOKS — Is history under threat in the new India?
ART & PURSUITS — An exhibition of cosmic creatures.
FOOD & DRINK — Fasting and feasting for Navaratri
TRAVEL — There's more to Munich than the beer fest!
WELLNESS — The link between genetics and heart disease

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KARNATAKA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN-U01135KA973SGC002378)
"Beej Bhavan", Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru-560 024.
Phone: 080-23415652/56/23416953
E-mail: ksscmd@gmail.com, seclkssctd@gmail.com
No.KSSCL/SECL/2992/2025-26 Date: 25.09.2025

KIND ATTENTION: EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS OF KSSCL

In order to provide voter identification cards to vote in the election of Seed Grower Shareholders' Representative Directors and to facilitate direct transfer of the dividend amount of the Company to the bank accounts of the shareholders, it is hereby requested to submit your latest KYC information / documents certified by concerned Center Heads along with 2 recent passport size photographs to the Head Office through the concerned Centers.

OR

The Company's website **https://ksscl.karnataka.gov.in** has provided a window to update/upload the KYC information of the shareholders. It is hereby requested to upload/update the KYC information to facilitate the voting process in the Seeds Growers shareholders representative Directors election.

Sd/- K.G. Anup, Managing Director

Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
FROM THE HOUSE OF MYSORE SANDAL SOAP
Sandal City: P.B No. 5531, Bengaluru - Pune Highway, Bengaluru – 560055. Ph: 080-22164879, 22164886,
Website: **www.mysoresandal.org** E-mail: **ksdl.dgmmtls@gmail.com**
An ISO-9001:2015 & 14001:2015 Company
Date : 26.09.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tenders are invited by **KS&DL** in two cover system through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/**) with respect to supply of following Goods/Services/Works.

Sl.No.	Tender Number	Tender Name	Tender Quantity	Published date	Last date of submission
1	KSDL/2025-26/IND0910	Procurement of Wooden Pallet Two side closer 63 inch length X 48 inch width X 6 inch thickness at KSDL, Bengaluru Complex	700 Nos.	22.09.2025	08.10.2025
2	KSDL/2025-26/IND0911	Procurement of Gear / Hydraulic oil	Goods	22.09.2025	08.10.2025

For any queries contact the undersigned

Sd/- Asst. Gen. Manager (Materials)

ICAR - National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology
भाकृअनुप - राष्ट्रीय पशु पोषण एवं शरीर क्रिया विज्ञान संस्थान
Adugodi, Bengaluru - 560 030
कृषि अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा विभाग, भारत सरकार
Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Government of India

NIANP/ADV-Project-I-Estt/2025

A walk - in - interview will be held on **10.10.2025 (Friday) at 10.00 AM** at this Institute for the Selection of one Senior Research Fellow under the NASF Project entitled "Metabolomics fingerprinting of body fluids for development of a metabolite-based novel semen extender for enhancing fertility of bull sperm and diagnostic assays for detection of sub-clinical hemoprotozoan diseases in cattle (Project No. NASF/MA-9015/2022-23)" for a period upto **April, 2026.** Emoluments: **Rs. 37,000/- Per month fixed plus HRA.** Age Limit: 35 years for Men and 40 years for Women on the date for Interview (relaxation for SC/ST/OBC/PH candidates as per GOI / ICAR rules). Interested candidates must bring all **original certificates/testimonials** at the time of the walk-in interview. For the application format and detailed advertisement, please visit the institute website: www.nianp.res.in

Sd/- I/c Administrative Officer

Government of Karnataka
Public Works Department, Special Division, Hunsur
Short Term tender Notification
(Through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)
IFT No: 09/2025-26 Date: 25.09.2025

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka the undersigned has invited itemised tender for 05-works related to Hunsur Division as per terms and conditions of "standard tender documents" KW-1, KW-2 & KW-3 from the eligible registered contactors under PWD through kppp Portal. Maximum amount put to tender Rs.55.76 lakhs and Minimum amount put to tender Rs.8.47 lakhs, Maximum EMD amount of Rs.1,11,520/- and Minimum EMD amount of Rs.10,600/- Tender documents downloaded date 26-09-2025 from the https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in website and Last date for submission of filled tender documents Dt: 09-20-2025 upto 16.00 Hours. Period for completion of works (including Rainy season) Maximum 12-Months & Minimum 04-Months For more details visit the undersigned during office working hours .

Note: 1) The employer reserves the rights to Reject or Accept any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons. **2)** Tender extension/Addendum/Corrigendum etc, will be notified only in KPP Portal and will not be published in news papers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Special Division, Hunsur
DIPR/DDMYS/1027/KSMCA/550/2025-26

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಭಟ್ಕಳ (ಉ.ಕ.)
TOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, BHATKAL (U.K.)
Ph/Fax: 08385-226408, Website: www.bhatkaltown.mrc.gov.in
Email: ka.bhatkal.tmc@gmail.com
ನಂ: ಪುಸಭ/ಕಾವಿ/ಅಮೃತ–2.0/ಟೆಂ–05/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25–09–2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ)

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಕಾಯಿದೆ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ–2000 ರಂತೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಪುರಸ್ಕೃತ ಅಮೃತ್ 2.0 ಯೋಜನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾಗಿರುವ ಉದ್ಯಾನವನ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕುರಿತಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ, ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT49827** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಡಬ್ಲೂ–03 ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13–10–2025 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.00 ಘಂಟೆಯ ಒಳಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ವೀಕೃತ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 14–10–2025 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.30 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲ www.bhatkaltown.mrc.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಕಛೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯವನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಪುರಸಭೆ ಭಟ್ಕಳ (ಉ.ಕ.)
DIPR/KWR/KSMCA/549/25-26 dt.26.09.25

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal only)

KPTCL invites Tenders for the following works:

(1) No: SEE/Tr(O)C-N/EE(E)/AEE(E)-2/F-113(2)/25-26/1629 Date: 25.09.2025
Tender No. KPTCL/2025-26/IND0219/Call-2 for Design, Manufacture, Testing and supply of One no. of 220 Volts DC, 300 AH Battery Charger Set to 220KV Receiving Station, Hebbal, Bengaluru.

(2) No: SEE/Tr(O)C-N/EE(E)/AEE(E)-2/F-114(1)/25-26/1632 Date: 26.09.2025
Tender No. KPTCL/2025-26/IND0220/Call-2 for Design, Manufacture, Testing and supply of Five (05) no's. of 110 Volts 15A Battery Charger Set to various sub-stations coming under Transmission(Operation)Circle-North, KPTCL, Bengaluru.

The Tender will be received through "KPP Portal" mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the KPP Portal process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink "**E Procurement KPTCL"** or directly logging on to website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 27.09.2025.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, (Elec.), Transmission (Operation)Circle-North, KPTCL, UAS Campus, Hebbal, Bengaluru-560024.

ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ನರವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ,
DHARWAD INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND NEURO SCIENCES
Belgaum Road, DHARWAD-580008
Email: director.dimhans@gmail.com, aaodimhans@gmail.com Phone No: 0836-2447055
ಸಂ:ಡಿಮ್ಹಾನ್ಸ/ಸರಬ/64/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ :26/09/2025

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ)

2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ನರವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ (ಡಿಮ್ಹಾನ್ಸ), ಧಾರವಾಡಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಶ್ಯಕವಿರುವ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿ ಖರೀದಿಸಲು ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1. DME/2025-26/IND1742 : Supply of Drugs, Chemicals, Consumables And Disposables to Dharwad Institute of Mental Health And Neuroscience Dharwad
2. DME/2025-26/IND1734 : Supply of Automated Inverted Fluorescence Microscope with Accessories, Upright Microscope, Microvolume Spectrophotometer System and Thermal Cycler Instrument to Multi-disciplinary Research Unit

ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ದ್ವಿ–ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು,ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಅರ್ಜಿಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಇನ್ನುಳಿದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,ಡಿಮ್ಹಾನ್ಸ
ಧಾರವಾಡ
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/717/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ/2025–26

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West
Bengaluru - 560 020
No: BDA/Commr/DS-1/Stat/e-125634/2025-26 **Dated:** 26-09-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Bangalore Development Authority invites proposals to provide Stationery, Furniture's and Printing items from eligible service providers under two cover system.

1	RFP Reference No.	BDA/2025-26/IND0001
2	Date of Commencement of Download of RFP Document from e-procurement website	**26-09-2025 onwards**
3	Last Date and Time of uploading online Queries in Karnataka Public Procurement portal	**29-09-2025, 5.00 PM**
4	Last Date and Time of uploading of RFP in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	**04-10-2025 upto 5.00 pm**
5	Date and Time of Online Opening of RFP Application	**06-10-2025, 11.00 AM**
6	Place of Opening of RFP	Online at Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
7	Address of Communication	**Office of Deputy Secretary-1**, Bangalore Development Authority, T.Chowdaiah Road,Kumarapark West, Bangalore - 560020. Mobile: 9739279799

For more details please visit Karnataka Public Procurement portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** or Contact at **Office Deputy Secretary-1, Bangalore Development Authority,** T.Chowdaiad Road, Kumarapark West, Bangalore - 560020.

Sd/- Deputy Secretary-1, BDA, Bengaluru

VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
"Jnana Sangama", Belagavi - 590018, Karnataka
Ref.No: VTU/BGM/RE/2025-26/IFT No.91/3227 Date: 25-09-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) - (Through E-Procurement Only)

As per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act - 1999 & Rule 2000, The Registrar, V.T.U., Belagavi invite tender through e-Procurement basis from eligible Tenderers, registered in Labour Department and Other Concerned Department for the Work of **Providing Catering Services for U.G. and P.G. Students in Hostel Mess at VTU Regional Centre, Kalaburagi. Average Annual Amount of Rs. 1,13,67,191/- (Excluding GST).** Other details log on to Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on 26-09-2025.**

Sd/- Registrar
VTU, Belagavi
DIPR/Belagavi/1104/Adverto/2025-26

ಬೀದರ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ
ಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾರಂಜಿ ಹಾಲಹಳ್ಳಿ (ಕೆ), ಬೀದರ 585 414 ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಭಾರತ
BIDAR UNIVERSITY
Office of the Registrar Evaluation Section
E-Mail.registrarevaluationbidar@gmail.com
No. BUBIDAR/AB/2025-26/ Date: 25-09-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(E-Procurement two coversystem)

Bidar University invites tender from eligible service provider for **DIGITIZATION OF THE ANSWER SCRIPTS WITHOUT CUTTING THE SPINE OF THE ANSWER SCRIPTS FOR ON SCREEN EVALUATION AND DIGITAL STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL FOR EXAMINATION SECTION,** for the period of Five years (extend able at the discretion of the University for another 2 years) as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act. The tenderers who have registered under E- governance Department of Karnataka may participate through e-tendering system. Tender documents may be downloaded from the E-Procurement Website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The eligible tenderers shall submit their proposal under e-procurement platform on or before the **dates as scheduled in the e-portal. For more information contact Registrar (Evaluation), Examination Section, 9449391184.**

NOTE:- Last date & time for submission of tender documents: 12/10/2025 & 5.00PM

Sd/-
Registrar (Evaluation)
Bidar University, Bidar

Ravishing Beauty wins feature

MYSURU RESULTS

Ravishing Beauty, from the stables of Prasanna Kumar and ridden by Antony Raj, won the Mysore 1000 Guineas, the feature event of the Mysuru races on Friday.

1. Valaroso Plate - 2000M: Unforgettable Star (Cyrus N Poonawalla) Suraj Narredu 1; Ceremonial (Antony Raj) 2; Supreme Success (Vinod Shinde) 3; Sundance Kid (AR Pradeep) 4; Wb: 3-3/4, 2-1/4, Dist. T: 2:06.94. TB: Rajesh Narredu. Fav: Unforgettable Star.

2. Son Of The Light Plate - 1400M: My Life My Rules (Suchendra Bal) Antony Raj 1; Gentleman's Word (Gautam Raj) 2; Warrior Woman (Ajeeth Kumar) 3; Bundelkhand Queen (Varun) 4; Not Run: Eye The Mind. Wb: 1/2, 1L, Shd. T: 1:25.93. TB: Aditya. Fav: My Life My Rules.

3. Jayanagara Plate - 1200M: Baltimore (S Thirupathy) Asirvatham 1; Sorrento Secret (Ankit Pal) 2; Sunway Lagoon (Ramu) 3; Sheer Bliss (Pavan) 4; Wb: 3/4, Shd, 6L, 4-1/4L. T: 1:11.88. TB: Azhar Ali. Fav: Baltimore.

4. Maj Sardar L Mahadevaiah Memorial Trophy - 1200M: Falcon Fury (KS Garacha) S Imran 1; Ocean (Antony Raj) 2; Sherouk (Mukesh Kumar) 3; Natural Warrior (Ankit Pal) 4; Wb: 2, Lnk, 2-1/2L.: 1:11.41. TB: J Ganesh. Fav: Ocean.

5. Mysore 1000 Guineas - 1600M: Ravishing Beauty (Kaliyaperumal) Antony Raj 1; Indian Brocade (Suraj Narredu) 2; Miracle Star (Sandesh) 3; Fourth Wing (Trevor Patel) 4; Wb: 3/4, 1-1/4, 2-3/4L. T: 1:34.86. TB: Prasanna Kumar. Fav: Miracle Star.

6. MB Appaya Memorial Trophy-1400M: Confident Game (Sunil Santosh) Vinod Shinde 1; Mazal Tov (Akshay Kumar) 2; Spectacular (Suhas) 3; Kanya Rashi (Hindu Singh) 4; Wb: 3/4L, 1/2, 1/2l. T: 1:23.05. TB: HR Moses. Fav: Power Of Beauty.

7. Haveri Plate - 1200M: Born Dancer (Girish Byrappa) Shyam Kumar 1; Court Jester (Faiz) 2; Moonlight Queen (Antony Raj) 3; Grace (Suhas) 4; Wb: 7-1/2, Nk, 3/4L. . T: 1:10.47. TB: Ranjeet Shinde. Fav: Moonlight Queen.

Bengaluru dividends:
I race: Rs 11w; 10, 18p; Fc: Rs 33; Q: Rs 31; Shp: Rs 20; Thp: Rs 23 ; Tri: Rs 23 & 10;
II race: Rs 23w; Rs 11, 18, 14p; Fc: Rs 116; Q: Rs 73; Shp: Rs 36; Thp: Rs 46; Tri: Rs 385 & 134; Ex: Rs 2,387 & 960.
III race: Rs 20w; 10, 12, 14p; Fc: Rs 61; Q: Rs 41; Shp: Rs 28; Thp: Rs 36; Tri: Rs 206 & 58; Ex: Rs 998 & 460.
IV race: Rs 39w; 10, 11, 15p; Fc: Rs 73; Q: Rs 26; Shp: Rs 33; Thp: Rs 38; Tri: Rs 87 & 68. Ex: Rs 962 & 705.
V race: Rs 61w; 16, 15, 12p; Fc: Rs 346; Q: Rs 143; Shp: Rs 34; Thp: Rs 63; Tri: Rs 473 & 106; Ex: Rs 997 & 613.
VI race: Rs 146w; 20, 14, 30p; Fc: Rs 22,562; Q: Rs 4,194; Shp: Rs 23; Thp: Rs 74; Tri: Rs 54,942; Ex: Rs 63,585 (c/o).
VII race: Rs 83w; 15, 13, 10p; Fc: Rs 1,685; Q: Rs 410; Shp: Rs 28; Thp: Rs 79; Tri: Rs 1,221 & 335; Ex: Rs 7,194 & 8,222.
Jackpot: Rs 3,37,212 (c/o). **Runner-up:** Rs 24,086 (6). **I treble:** Rs 575 (11). **II Treble:** Rs 13,193 (c/o).

Rosario for main event

PUNE SELECTIONS

Pesi Shroff-trained Rosario, to be ridden by A Prakash, is fancied to win the Free Press Journal Trophy, the feature event of the Pune races run over a sprint at the races on Saturday.
The first race starts at 1:10 pm.

1. Mid Day Trophy - 1000M: Midnight Express 1, Esperanza 2.
2. Indiarace.com Cup - 1400M: Lord Murphy 1, Baleno 2, Arbitrage 3.
3. Racingpulse.in Trophy - 1000M: Etoile 1, Between Friends 2, Impulsive 3.
4. Times Of India Trophy - 1400M: Shambala 1, It's My Time 2, Market King 3.
5. Hindu Trophy - 1000M: El Moran 1, Riptide 2, Lightning Mcqueen 3.
6. Free Press Journal Trophy - 1200M: Rosario 1, Giacomo 2, Opus Dei 3.
7. Race Mirror Trophy - 1400M: Miracle Of Hanukah 1, Phatasmique 2, Jackson 3.
Day's best: Shambala. **Jackpot:** 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7. **Treble:** 4, 5 & 6.

Set In Gold for feature

CHENNAI SELECTIONS

Deepesh Narredu-trained Set In Gold, to be ridden by Yash Narredu, is fancied to win the Columbia Handicap, the feature event of the Madras races to be run over a five and half furlongs at the races on Saturday.
The first race starts at 2:00 pm.

1. Amorous Knight Handicap - 1600M: Avantador 1, Royal Supremacy 2, Saintly Star 3.
2. Revelation Handicap - 1400M: Larado 1, Aurora Borealis 2, War Emblem 3.
3. Charon Handicap - 1200M: Royal Deccan 1, Santamarina Star 2, Bohemian Star 3,
4. Columbia Handicap - 1100M: Set In Gold 1, Gold Ride 2, Saint Emilion 3.
5. Galileo Cup - 1600M: Star Power 1, Carolina Springs 2, Starlight Whisper 3.
6. Almanac Handicap - 1600M: Elfin Knight 1, This Is Gold 2, Vishwas 3.
Day's best: Royal Deccan.
Jackpot: 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6.
Treble: 4, 5 & 6.

Stead returns as NZ coach

WELLINGTON, PTI: Former BlackCaps head coach Gary Stead has rejoined New Zealand Cricket (NZC) in a new role as high-performance coach, the board announced on Friday.

According to an NZC statement, Stead's responsibilities will include "supporting player and coach development, as well as high-performance programmes."

This comes less than four months after Stead stepped down as head coach of the New Zealand men's team in June, following a highly successful tenure.

Suryakumar fined 30% of match fee, India appeal verdict

Pakistan pacer Rauf fined 30% for aggressive gesture

DUBAI, PTI

India captain Suryakumar Yadav was fined 30 percent of his match fee for his comments on the Pahalgam terror attack, a sanction that the BCCI has appealed against, while Pakistan's Haris Rauf also copped a similar penalty in the ICC's disciplinary action amid increasing hostilities between the two feuding sides.

Another Pakistan player Sahibzada Farhan was handed a warning for his gun-fire celebration during last Sunday's Asia Cup match against India by match referee Richie Richardson after a hearing here on Friday.

"The ICC will not issue any official release on the sanctions till end of the tournament given the sensitivity of the matter," a tournament source said.

It could come on Monday, while the tournament final is scheduled to be played here on Sunday between the arch-rivals, who have so far clashed twice in the ongoing event with India winning on both occasions.

The ICC was scheduled to issue a press release about the sanctions, but it was decided that the global body will wait till the end of the tournament.

It is understood that the BCCI doesn't agree with Richardson's assertion that Suryakumar has breached the Code of Conduct by standing for his country's Army and victims of the terror attack.

Suryakumar Yadav

Pakistan's Haris Rauf confronts India's Abhishek Sharma.

"If the BCCI is unable to defend its captain, who stood by the Indian Army, it would be very poor optics. BCCI as an organisation shouldn't even accept a warning which would also mean that Surya is guilty," a source in the know of developments said.

Pakistan had filed a complaint against Suryakumar after he dedicated his team's win over the arch foes on September 14 to the victims of Pahalgam terror attack and the Indian armed forces.

He pleaded not guilty to the charge during his hearing on Thursday and was apparently told not to make any statement that could be construed as political in the remainder of the tournament.

Rauf, on the other hand, has been penalised for his provocative actions, which included the use of "abusive language" and hand gestures to mock the falling of planes during the game on Sunday.

Rauf maintained that there was nothing political about his actions but they were nonetheless deemed "abusive and aggressive" by the match referee.

Farhan, on the other hand, also pleaded not guilty to any code of conduct violation, claiming that the gun-fire celebration that he did after his half-century on Sunday is a "traditional way of celebrating in his ethnic Pakhtun tribe".

The Pakistani players' hearing was conducted by Richardson at their team hotel here.

Rauf and Farhan appeared before him in person even though the responses given by them were in writing. They were accompanied by team manager Naveed Akram Cheema.

Tensions between the two sides have been running high after India's refusal to do a traditional handshake with Pakistani players to show solidarity with the Pahalgam attack victims.

Twenty-six people were killed in the attack at the tourism hub in Jammu and Kashmir that was carried out by Pakistan-backed terrorists in April this year.

KL Rahul

Ton-up Rahul, Sudharsan help India A thump Australia A

LUCKNOW, PTI: KL Rahul and B Sai Sudharsan struck sublime hundreds as India A registered a stunning five-wicket win over Australia A while hunting down a target of 413 to seal the two-match unofficial Test series 1-0 here on Friday.

It was the sixth highest successful run chase in the country's first-class history, and Rahul's form (176 not out, 210 balls, 16x4, 4x6) is an ominous sign for the West Indians ahead of the two-match Test series, starting next month.

The highest chase remains in the name of West Zone when they overhauled South Zone's target of 536 in the 2010 Duleep Trophy final.

Starting the fourth and final day from their overnight 169 for two, India lost Manav Suthar at the total of 189.

But Sudharsan (100, 172 balls) and skipper Dhruv Jurel (56) added 78 runs for the fourth wicket to keep India A in the chase of a daunting 412.

Brief scores: Australia A: 420 and 185 all out It to India A: 194 all out and (O/N: 169/2) 413/5 in 91.3 overs (N Jagadeesan 36, KL Rahul 176 n.o., Sai Sudharan 100, Dhruv Jurel 56; Todd Murphy 3-114, Corey Rocchiccioli 2-84). **Result:** India A won by 5 wkts.

Injured Joseph ruled out of India Tests

NEW DELHI, PTI: Star West Indies pacer Shamar Joseph was on Friday ruled out of the upcoming Test series against India due to an unspecified injury with uncapped all-rounder Johann Layne replacing him in the squad.

The two-match Test series is set to begin in Ahmedabad on October 2.

"Johann Layne has replaced Shamar Joseph in the squad for the Test series against India," Windies Cricket announced on X.

The board did not disclose the details of the 26-year-old Joseph's injury.

CRICKET ASIA CUP

Nissanka goes berserk but India stay unbeaten

Men In Blue prevail in Super Over after being given a solid workout before final

R KAUSHIK
DUBAI

Pathum Nissanka began the T20 Asia Cup with half-centuries in Sri Lanka's first two games, before going off the boil. His diminishing returns mirrored his team's fortunes as the 2014 T20 World Cup winners lost their first two Super Four matches and crashed out of the tournament, but with only pride on the line against India, the opener made a spectacular return to form on Friday night.

Faced with the stiffest target of the tournament after India rode on another special half-century from Abhishek Sharma to post 202 for five, Nissanka tore into a bowling attack missing Jasprit Bumrah (rested) and Hardik Pandya (who left the field after just one over) to register a stunning maiden T20I hundred, an innings of the highest quality at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

Nissanka fell to the first ball of the final over with 12 needed for victory, and Dasun Shanaka and Janith Liyanage somehow eked out 11 to push the match into a Super Over. Arshdeep Singh, who came back superbly at the death after a poor beginning, held his nerve to concede just two in a dramatic Super Over and India extended their winning streak to eight matches, only just, skipper Suryakumar Yadav knocking off those runs off the first ball, from Wanindu Hasaranga.

India will feel they should never have allowed the match to get this close, but they will take heart from having got the job done when all seemed lost, the sign of a team brimful with belief.

Admittedly, India were missing two of their premier pacers but the profligacy of Harshit Rana and Arshdeep didn't reflect well on the reserve strength. Neither was particularly impressive in the game against Oman a week back and they copped severe punishment once again, their lapses in length and direction mercilessly punished by Nissanka and Kusal Perera, both of whom conjured 25-ball half-centuries.

Before leaving the field, Pandya had got rid of Kusal Mendis off the fourth ball of the chase, snapped up at slip by Shubman Gill, but if India thought they were in for a joyride, Nissanka and Perera emphatically dashed those during a frenetic second-wicket alliance of 127 that came off just 70 deliveries. While Nissanka didn't spare any part of the ground, the left-handed Perera largely targeted the square field on the leg-side.

Kuldeep Yadav and Varun Chakravarthy imposed a semblance of control and Sri Lanka stuttered after Perera charged the latter and was stumped by a mile, settling for scores tied when victory seemed imminent.

A few of India's batting frailties had reared their head after Charith Asalanka asked them to bat first on a very good track. Abhishek was characteristically flowing, like a river in spate, but neither Gill nor Suryakumar, at No. 3, inspired any confidence. Skipper Suryakumar and his deputy Gill haven't had the kind of tournaments they would have liked; while Gill has at least been involved in two big associations with the red-hot Abhishek, the captain has looked a pale shadow of his imperious self and was trapped leg before on the sweep by Hasaranga. Suryakumar has made the sweep his signature stroke and to see him thus dismissed merely highlighted his tribulations in this competition.

Abhishek apart, though, India did benefit from good hands from Sanju Samson, showcasing his comfort levels in the middle order for the first time, and Tilak Varma, the fluent left-hander who once again batted with composure and common sense.

Sri Lanka's Pathum Nissanka's sensational 58-ball 107 went in vain as India scripted a thrilling Super Over win in their Super 4s game in Dubai on Friday. AFP

SCORE BOARD

INDIA

Abhishek c Kamindu b Asalanka	61 (31b, 8x4, 2x6)
Gill c&b Theekshana	4 (3b, 1x4)
Suryakumar lbw Hasaranga	12 (13b, 1x4)
Tilak (not out)	49 (34b, 4x4, 1x6)
Samson c Asalanka b Shanaka	39 (23b, 1x4, 3x6)
Pandya c&b Chameera	2 (3b)
Axar (not out)	21 (15b, 1x4, 1x6)
Extras (LB-5, W-7, NB-2)	14
TOTAL (for 5 wkts, 20 overs)	**202**

Fall of wickets: 1-15 (Gill), 2-74 (Suryakumar), 3-92 (Abhishek), 4-158 (Samson), 5-162 (Pandya).
Bowling: Thushara 4-0-43-0 (w-2, nb-1), Theekshana 4-0-36-1 (w-2), Chameera 4-0-40-1 (w-1), Hasaranga 4-0-37-1, Shanaka 2-0-23-1 (w-2, nb-1), Asalanka 2-0-18-1.

SRI LANKA

Nissanka c C'varthy b Rana	107 (58b, 7x4, 6x6)
Kusal c Gill b Pandya	0 (1b)
Perera st Samson b C'varthy	58 (32b, 8x4, 1x6)
Asalanka c Gill b Kuldeep	5 (9b)
Kamindu c Axar b Arshdeep	3 (7b)
Shanaka (not out)	22 (11b, 2x4, 1x6)
Liyanage (not out)	2 (2b)
Extras (LB-1, W-4)	5
Total (for 5 wkts, 20 overs)	**202**

Fall of wickets: 1-7 (Kusal Mendis), 2-134 (Perera), 3-157 (Asalanka), 4-163 (Kamindu Mendis), 5-191 (Nissanka). **Bowling:** Pandya 1-0-7-1, Arshdeep 4-0-46-1 (w-3), Rana 4-0-54-1, Axar 3-0-32-0, Kuldeep 4-0-31-1 (w-1), Chakravarthy 4-0-31-1.
Super Over: Sri Lanka: 2/2 (Wkt, 1, 0, 1w, Wkt). India: 3/0 (3)
Result: India won via Super Over
India's next match: Vs Pakistan, final (Sept 28). **PoM:** P Nissanka

Secretary's XI, Madhya Pradesh share day one honours

BENGALURU, DHNS: KSCA Secretary's XI and Madhya Pradesh shared the opening day's honours of the final of the Dr (Capt) K Thimmappiah memorial tournament here at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Friday.

Opting to bat first, Madhya Pradesh rode the contributions from Himanshu Mantri (83) and skipper Shubham Sharma (66), helped in no small measure by a string of cameos through the the day, to finish the proceedings at 287/6. For Karnataka, pacer M Venkatesh (2/42) and left-arm spinner Madhav Bajaj (2/103) claimed two apiece while Abhishek Ahlawat and Dhruv P claimed one each to keep the hosts in the game.

MP had a decent start with their openers adding 51 before Venkatesh removed Yash Dubey. Four runs later, Bajaj sent back other opener Harsh Gawli to put Secretary's XI in control.

Mantri and Shubham, however, took the sting out of the attack by adding 122 runs. The highest stand for the day was followed by another 66-run partnership between Chouhan (34) and Shubham as MP stayed on top at 238/4.

Venkatesh Iyer and Arshad Khan further frustrated the hosts with a 47-run stand before Dhruv struck to send back the latter in what turned out to be the last ball.

Brief scores: Madhya Pradesh: 287/6 in 86.5 overs (Yash Dubey 34, Himanshu Mantri 83, Shubham Sharma 66, Rishabh Chouhan 34; Venkatesh M 2-42, Madhav Bajaj 2-103) vs KSCA Secretary's XI.

From left: Madhav Bajaj and M Venkatesh claimed two wickets apiece for Secretary's XI while Himanshu Mantri hit 83 for MP on the first day of the final at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium. DH PHOTO/ KRISHNAKUMAR P S

Harmanpreet shuts out outside noise

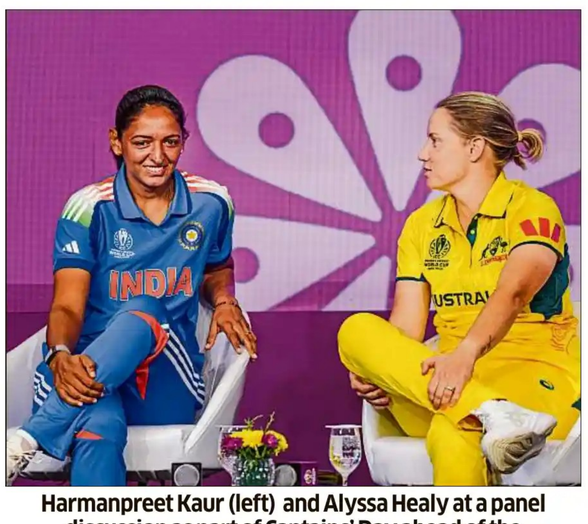
VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
BENGALURU, DHNS

With on and off-field controversies between India and Pakistan taking the spotlight in the ongoing Asia Cup in the United Arab Emirates, it came as no surprise that Harmanpreet Kaur was asked whether it would have any impact on how the upcoming Women's World Cup would be played.

Indian skipper Harmanpreet, however, refused to be drawn into the controversy and maintained that the main focus was on cricket and the other issues took a back seat.

"We can only control one thing, which is playing cricket on the field," Harmanpreet said during a captains' press meet here on Friday. "We are cricketers and we can only control things in our hands. But the other parts, I have zero control over it and I don't take those things on my mind. We don't even discuss those things in the dressing room. We are only here to play cricket and our focus is only on cricket."

Pakistan skipper Fatima Sana also shared similar sentiments and said that they were ready to take on any opposition and did not heed the outside noise.


Harmanpreet Kaur (left) and Alyssa Healy at a panel discussion as part of Captains' Day ahead of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup in Bengaluru on Friday. PTI

"We are here for cricket. We love to play cricket. We want to win. And other things outside of the field aren't of our interest," Sana said.

For Kaur, there will be enormous pressure that comes with leading India on home soil, especially with the team's trophy drought, having never won a World Cup. However, she did not seem very fussed and looked forward to the opportunity.

"I think leading your country is always a very special moment, but leading your country in the ODI World Cup is even more special and on top of it, it is a home World Cup. I think it is going to be very amazing for all of us."

Seven-time champions Australia come into the tournament, backed again by most, to take the title back home. Their skipper Healy, however, stayed in character and said that India will be a team to beat in their conditions.

"I don't think it gets any easier. I think India in home conditions are going to be really, really tough to beat and I feel this ODI World Cup is going to be one of the strongest that I have been a part of," said Healy.

White Ferns' skipper Sophie Devine detailed that New Zealand will only hope to take the learnings from their T20 World Cup triumph last year and hoped the side would not get complacent.

"I'm not sure there's too much expectation. I think people have mentioned about how we won the T20 World Cup, but this is a completely different format. But we've got to take the learnings that we took from Dubai."

"I also think that given confidence certainly to the younger players to have that self-belief and I think the awareness that they can achieve it at this level.

England skipper Sciver-Brunt was her usual cautious self during the meet. When asked about the increased pressure that came from more responsibility, the 33-year-old said she has found a way.

"I've sort of learnt to compartmentalise different parts of my game. I think when you go out as a batter, you try to focus on the ball alone. I don't really want too much of noise than that in my head. But yeah, it is still a learning curve for me. And I think you have to learn different things from each game that I play."

Vedant, Rahul power India to series sweep over Australia

BRISBANE, PTI: Middle-order batters Vedant Trivedi and Rahul Kumar scored half-centuries while young left-arm spinner Khilan Patel grabbed four wickets as India Under-19 crushed Australia Under-19 by a massive 167 runs to make a clean sweep of the three-match Youth ODI series, here on Friday.

Vedant (86 off 92 balls) and Rahul's (62 off 84 balls) 99-run partnership for the fourth wicket set the platform for a competitive 280 for 9.

Brief scores: India U19: 280/9 in 50 overs (Vihaan Malhotra 40, Vedant Trivedi 86, Rahul Kumar 62; Will Byrom 3-45, Kasey Barton 3-39) bt Australia U19: 113 all out in 28.3 overs (Alex Turner 32, Tom Hogan 28; Udhav Mohan 3-26, Khilan Patel 4-26, Kanishk Chouhan 2-18).
Result: India U19 won by 167 runs.
3-match ODI series: India U19 won 3-0.

Vedant Trivedi. X

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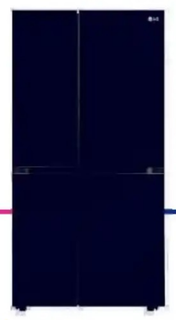
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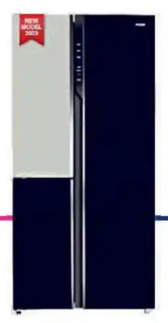
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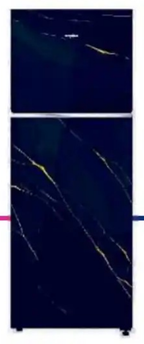
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FESTIVE DELIGHTS

- Reuse glass jars as tea light holders.
- Make rangoli with dried flower petals

HOME FRONT

WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

MIDNIGHT MUNCHIES

Late-night evenings and parties often lead to mindless snacking. Keep a bowl of roasted seeds or air-popped popcorn handy for those midnight cravings. Herbal tea with a pinch of cinnamon also curbs sweet tooth pangs and promotes better digestion, so you wake up refreshed and ready to celebrate again the next day.

HYDRATION HACK

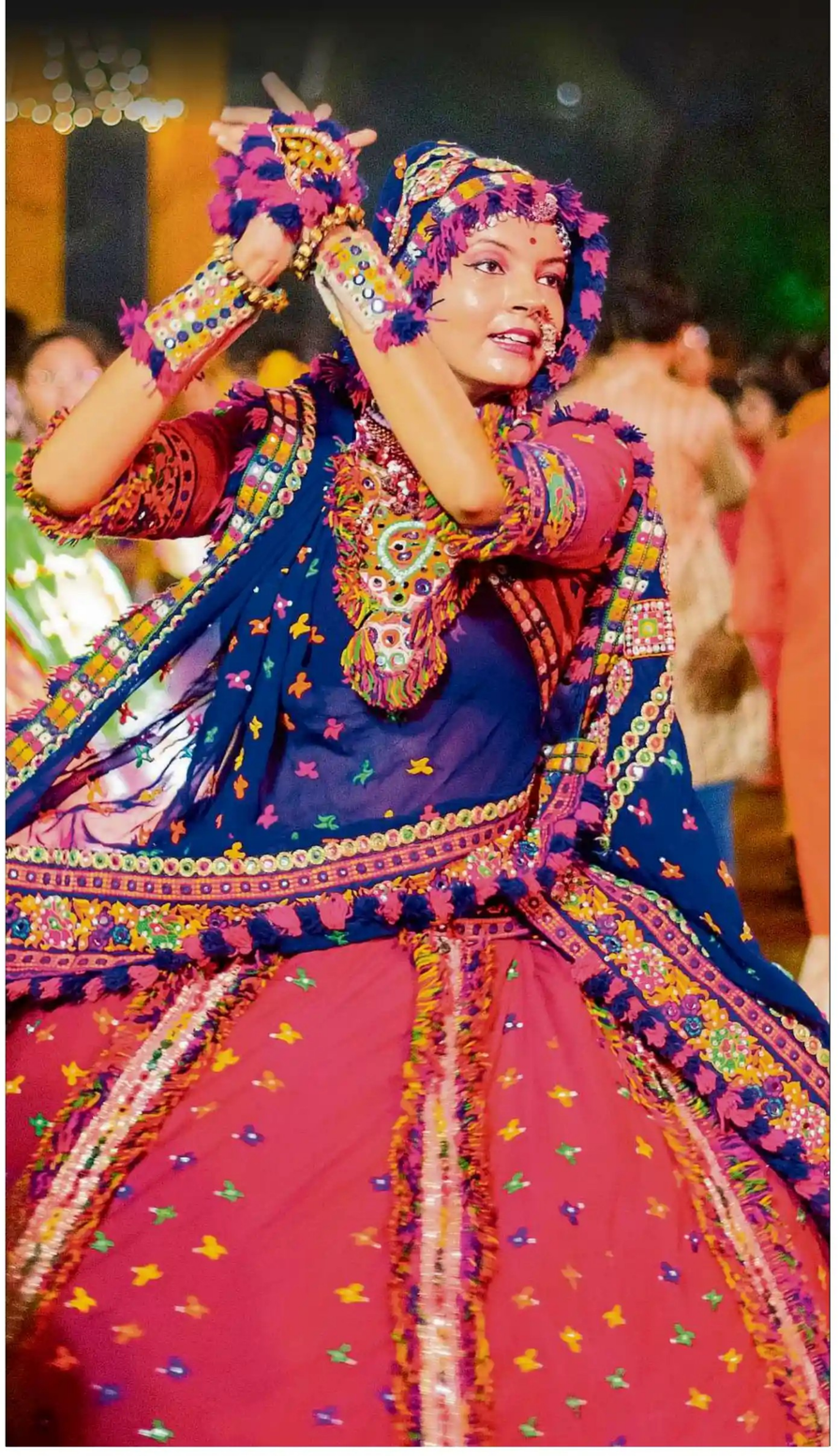
Festive meals are often salty and rich, which can dehydrate the body. Sip on infused water with lemon, mint, or orange slices throughout the evening. Coconut water or buttermilk between meals also helps balance electrolytes, keeps bloating at bay, and refreshes your system while you enjoy rich mithais and festive feasts guilt-free.

Hues of Navaratri ON A PLATTER!

Jayanthi Madhukar presents some tongue ticklers just right for the season

Navaratri celebrates the nine forms and aspects of feminine divine force during the nine auspicious days of the festival. From donning colourful clothes, offering prayers to pandal hopping, there is unmatched vibrancy and festivities. Navaratri is also associated with nine colours, each signifying a distinct quality.

Inspired by the festive colours, here are a few delicacies that will match up to the vibes and sentiments of the season.



Beetroot Halwa

The colour red symbolises love. With the use of beetroot in halwa, the intention is to create a deep shade of the colour.

What you need:

- Four cups of grated beetroot
- Two tablespoons of ghee
- One cup of milk
- Quarter cup each of sugar or 15 black dates (to taste), mixed nuts (cashew, almonds and pistachio) and raisins
- Half a cup of khova
- One teaspoon of cardamom powder

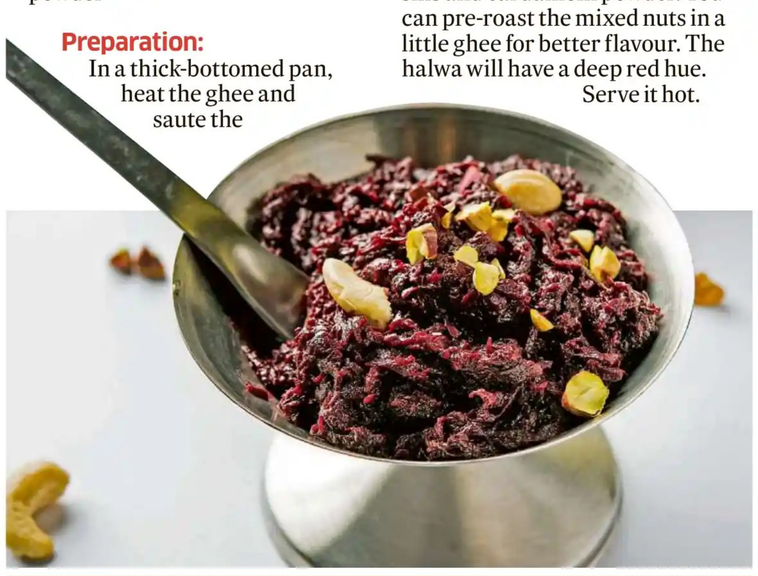
Preparation:

In a thick-bottomed pan, heat the ghee and saute the beetroot in it until it shrinks slightly. Add one cup of milk to the beetroot and stir well. Cover the pan and let the beetroot cook in the milk on slow heat for 10 minutes, stirring it occasionally. The beetroot will now be soft. Add sugar to taste and stir till it dissolves.

As a variation, you could add about 10-15 black dates instead of sugar and let the dates soften up along with the beetroot.

Continue to cook the halwa on low heat until the ghee separates. Add in the khova, mixed nuts, raisins and cardamom powder. You can pre-roast the mixed nuts in a little ghee for better flavour. The halwa will have a deep red hue.

Serve it hot.



Sweet pumpkin smoothie

The colour yellow signifies brightness, happiness and cheer, and symbolises celebrations as well. A sweet pumpkin smoothie will add that cheer to the table.

What you need:

- One cup of pumpkin puree
- Half a cup of Greek yogurt or thick curd
- One tablespoon of maple syrup or honey
- One banana
- One-third cup of milk
- Half a teaspoon of spices (equal quantities of nutmeg powder, ginger powder, clove and cinnamon powder)
- Half a cup of crushed ice (according to requirement)

Preparation:

Prepare pumpkin puree in advance by pressure cooking sweet pumpkin cubes and blending it smoothly.

Add all the ingredients in the blender, including the ice and mix until smooth. Serve in clear glasses and garnish with a sprinkle of pumpkin seeds.

Tip: Adjust the consistency of the smoothie according to your preference by reducing the pumpkin puree and adding more milk.

Sago pudding

White symbolises purity, peace and serenity, and is one of the nine Navaratri colours. Here is a Malaysian sago pudding also called sago gula melaka.

What you need:

- 10 cups of water
- 200 gm sago
- 150 gm palm sugar
- Two cups of canned coconut milk

Preparation:

Boil water in a large vessel and add the sago to it (add it gradually so that no clumps are formed). Boil the sago on low heat, stirring occasionally, until the pearls become transparent. Strain the cooked sago in a sieve and run it under cold water. Put 1-2 spoonful of sago in jelly moulds and refrigerate them to set and chill.

Now, pour the coconut milk into a saucepan and let it boil on low heat. Add a pinch of salt and if you can procure it easily, add a fresh pandan leaf for extra flavour. Make sure to stir constantly and when the coconut milk starts to bubble, remove from the heat and strain it into a bowl. Take the palm sugar in a fresh saucepan and melt it with two tablespoons of water on low heat. When it becomes a little syrupy, take it off the heat.

When the sago has set, gently remove it from the mould and put it into a wide cup. Pour the cooled coconut milk over it and top it with palm sugar syrup.

Pistachio Burfi

Green evokes serenity, peace and harmony. Nothing screams green better than the hearty pistachio. Here's an easy recipe for pistachio burfi.

What you need:

- One tin of condensed milk
- 150 gm of milk powder
- 70 gm of pistachio (ground)

Preparation:

Cook the three ingredients in a large, heavy-bottomed pan over medium heat. Stir continuously until the mixture begins to thicken and come together as one sticky ball. Transfer the burfi onto a lightly-greased pan and flatten it evenly with a cup or spatula. When it is cooling, cut the burfi into square or diamond-shaped pieces.

Garnish with pistachio pieces.

Carrot Payasa

Orange heralds warmth and vivacity making the wearer cheerful and filled with positive energy. Here's how you can get it onto your dining table.

What you need:

- Two carrots (preferably Delhi carrots), grated
- Half a cup of sugar (or to taste)
- Two cups of milk
- Quarter cup of water
- One tablespoon of ghee to saute
- Two tablespoons of almonds and cashew nuts
- Half a teaspoon of cardamom powder

Preparation:

In a thick-bottomed deep saucepan, gently fry the mixed nuts and add the grated carrots. Saute the carrot on medium heat till it turns a little pale. Add the sugar along with water and let the ingredients cook well for a few minutes.

Now pour the milk and let the payasa simmer on low heat for five minutes, stirring it occasionally. When done, pour it into individual cups and garnish with cardamom powder.

You can chill the payasa or serve it hot.

LEISURE

Beetle Bailey

THUNK!
4/22
YOU CAUGHT THAT BALL RIGHT BEFORE IT HIT THE WALL
MY GARDEN IS NOT A WARNING TRACK!
GREG + MORT WALKER
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JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

INNOO

STIHO

GETIHW

TREATO

I wonder if it would be better to just shave it all.
Your head is saving you the trouble.
2/17
HE WAS GRADUALLY GOING BALD BECAUSE HIS FOLLICLES WERE VANISHING ---

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"_____"

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Answers

He was gradually going bald because his follicles were vanishing — INTO THIN "HAIR"

ONION HOIST WEIGHT ROTATE

HITORI-115

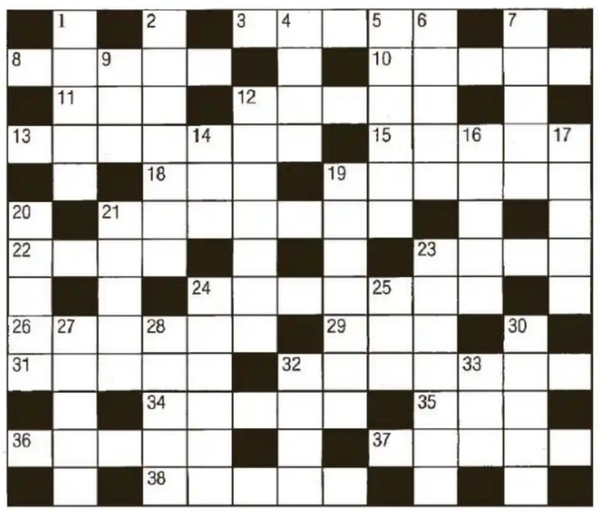
6	8	5	7	2	8	3	1
4	5	6	8	1	6	7	6
8	8	2	4	5	1	8	6
6	2	1	8	8	6	4	7
1	5	8	2	8	7	8	4
8	6	7	6	4	2	5	8
5	1	4	6	7	3	8	2
1	3	6	5	8	8	6	8

SOLUTION for HITORI-115

■	6	8	■	5	■	3	■
2	8	3	7	6	4	1	5
8	■	5	2	4	■	7	6
4	■	7	■	2	8	■	1
7	4	■	8	■	1	2	6
6	■	1	5	4	2	■	8
■	7	6	1	8	■	5	4
1	3	■	2	7	5	8	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 116



EASY

ACROSS

3 Loud explosions (5)
8 Parrot type (5)
10 Rascal (5)
11 Hill (3)
12 Rustic (5)
13 Afternoon show (7)
15 Manservant (5)
18 Household pet (3)
19 Peaceful (6)
21 According to reason (7)
22 Anorak (4)
23 Undergarment (4)
24 Flow windingly (7)
26 Topics (6)
29 Toddler (3)
31 Fortune-telling card (5)
32 Hates (7)
34 Yielded (5)
35 Fish eggs (3)
36 American state (5)
37 Friends (5)
38 Originate (5)

DOWN

1 Deadly (5)
2 French bean (7)
4 Fever (4)
5 Small stones (6)
6 Of the sun (5)
7 Female monarch (5)
9 Baby's bed (3)
12 Gives up work (7)
14 Horse (3)
16 Leprosy victim (5)
17 Canvas shelters (5)
19 Canonised (7)
20 Boy's name (5)
21 Beam of light (5)
23 Old soldier (7)
24 Shooting star (6)
25 Speck (3)
27 Robust (5)
28 Strong coffee (5)
30 Precipitous (5)
32 Lairs (4)
33 Drunkard (3)

CRYPTIC

ACROSS

3 In the majority case, one is a bit wet (5)
8 Where alcohol is used as an anaesthetic? (5)
10 The levy is on vehicles (5)
11 Organise the athletics? (3)
12 Old-fashioned engine driver (5)
13 Garments one pulls out about an inch? (7)
15 Watery nonsense (5)
18 In general, a long time (3)
19 Being friendly, possibly dallies endlessly (6)
21 Get ready to edit the paper again? (7)
22 Lois may be a medium (4)
23 Same table? (4)
24 Ran out of names (7)
26 Declared the condition for a grand finale (6)
29 Minute piece of food? (3)
31 Only a great man can turn it brown (5)
32 Afterwards, one gets left out of the side (7)
34 One learning to let the light in? (5)
35 Royal tree? (3)
36 Shout for a clear rhyme (5)
37 Splendid new purse (5)
38 Bob and Andy wandering around central Middlesex(5)

DOWN

1 Where a rake cannot possibly be in love? (5)
2 Rich men's hearty junkets in bars (7)
4 Wild ones could be the ruin of a sot (4)
5 Whence bleats may come (from the horses?) (6)
6 Language elevated in sublimation (5)
7 Being silly for a good time (5)
9 Not being a real pet, is it insecure? (3)
12 Broke off one's sleep and rushed out! (7)
14 Tireless resentment? (3)
16 At 51, Ned is looking a bit old (5)
17 He can make the grade (5)
19 Possibly learn as a team (7)
20 Seem proud of wrecking boats (5)
21 A fold as a feature of simple attire (5)
23 Distribute what one doesn't want, usually (4,3)
24 Very poor condition (6)
25 In truth, it's groovy! (3)
27 It's in the levy! (5)
28 Recorded the wrong date out of pig-headedness! (5)
30 Understood to have been captured (5)
32 Place useful in raising a family (4)
33 A knock up in the park (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 116

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 3, Mo-i-st 8, Local 10,Tax-is 11, Run 12, steam 13, Jerkin-s 15, Bilge 18, Era 19, Allied 21, Prepa-re 22, Oils 23, Mesa 24, Peter-Ed 26, State-d 29, Nut 31,Ti-tan 32, Later-a-L 34, Pupil 35, Oak 36, Cheer 37, Super 38, Dy-l-an.
DOWN: 1, K-O-rea 2, Ba-nke-rs 4, Oats 5, Stable 6,Tamil (rev.) 7, Binge 9, Cur 12, S-nap-ped 14, Ire 16, Li-Ned 17, Edgar 19, Arsenal 20, Boast 21, Pleat 23, Mete out 24, Penury 25, Rut 27,T-it-he 28,Ta-p-ed 30,Taken 32, Lima (rev.) 33, Rap (rev.).

EASY
ACROSS: 3, Bangs 8, Macaw 10, Rogue 11,Tor 12, Rural 13, Matinee 15, Valet 18, Cat 19, Serene 21, Logical 22, Coat 23, Vest 24, Meander 26,Themes 29,Tot 31,Tarot 32, Detests 34, Ceded 35, Roe 36, Idaho 37, Mates 38, Arise.
DOWN: 1, Fatal 2, Haricot 4, Ague 5, Gravel 6, Solar 7, Queen 9, Cot 12, Retires 14, Nag 16, Leper 17,Tents 19, Sainted 20, Scott 21, Laser 23, Veteran 24, Meteor 25, Dot 27, Hardy 28, Mocha 30, Steep 32, Dens 33, Sot.

DH DECCAN HERALD

Wknd.

ALL THAT GLITTERS TURNS INTO GOLD!

PAGE 02

Simple steps to festive glow

Dr Mukta Sachdev has some tips to keep your skin glowing like the festive spirit all around

Skin Care

From late-night parties to endless sweets, the festive season can take a toll on your skin. Here's how to stay glowing and healthy while you celebrate.

Hydrate inside and out

Cool weather and long hours indoors can leave your skin dry. A moisturiser with hyaluronic acid or ceramides keeps skin supple, while fruits, nuts and plenty of water add natural radiance.

Moisturize daily and sip water often - your skin will thank you.

Don't skip cleansing

Heavy make-up may look fabulous, but it can clog pores if not removed properly. Try a double cleanse - first with an oil or balm, then a gentle face wash. And don't forget - clean brushes translate to clean skin.

Also, sleeping with make-up on is the fastest route to dull, tired skin.

Party-ready glow in a jiffy

Need a little extra sparkle before the big celebration? Today's safe, dermatologist-led treatments can help.

You can try:

- Hydra facials to hydrate and refresh
- Fruit acid peels for instant brightness
- Laser toning for even tone.
- Skin boosters for a dewy, plump look

Breakouts and sensitivity

Festival food and stress can trigger pimples. If you're acne-prone, choose non-greasy, non-comedogenic skincare. Spot gels with salicylic acid can calm breakouts, while serums with niacinamide soothe redness.

So, don't let one pimple steal your festive spirit - treat it, don't pick it.

Sunscreen is still a must

Don't pack away the SPF just because it's winter. UV rays cause tanning and pigmentation year-round. A lightweight SPF 30 is your best festive companion. Remember, sunscreen isn't seasonal - it's essential.

Balance and rest

No cream can replace good sleep, nutritious meals and stress-free moments. Aim for 7–8 hours of rest and load your plate with greens and fresh fruits. Healthy habits are the real secret to festive radiance.

With the right skincare and a few simple habits, your skin can glow as brightly as the lights and festivities around you. Celebrate with confidence - your skin deserves it.

(The author is a consultant dermatologist)

Uncontrolled blood sugar may cause health issues

It is crucial to ensure your blood sugar levels are always within the prescribed limit. Blood sugar (or glucose) is a major source of energy your body needs. However, it has an adverse impact on your health if it is not within the prescribed limit. Those with diabetes need to monitor it very closely to ensure it is always within the set range. In these cases, the doctor sets a target range that is to be maintained. The treatment plan will be aimed at ensuring this range is maintained.

In healthy, non diabetic individuals, the fasting blood sugar range (atleast eight hours of fasting) is between 70 and 99 mg/dL. It rises two hours after eating, but stays below 140 mg/dL. Age and health conditions have a bearing on this range.

In people with diabetes, the fasting blood sugar range as well as the range two hours after eating should be maintained. These target ranges will be set by the doctor concerned based on the individual, considering factors like risk of low blood sugar, age and other conditions such as nature of diabetes, pregnancy etc.

It is vital for you to understand and maintain your blood sugar level in the range set for you. Both excessively high (hyperglycaemia) or low (hypoglycaemia) levels can lead to serious health complications over time. Unchecked high blood sugar level damages the eyes, kidneys, nerves and heart. On the other hand, low blood sugar may cause confusion, dizziness and leads to unconsciousness, if not treated early.

It is easy to monitor blood sugar levels with a glucometer. It can be done conveniently at home, and it is the ideal way to ensure your blood sugar levels are always in limits and you don't run the risk of irreversibly damaged vital organs.

Disclaimer: *This story is based on content sourced from https://aihealth.clinic. The content here is only indicative and should not be used as an alternative for professional medical consultation. For medical advice and treatment consult your doctor. Issued in public interest.*

Light it, bite it: edible butter candle

This festive season, wow your guests with edible butter candles — a trend that's part décor, part appetizer. Whip softened butter with herbs, spices, or even edible flowers, then mold it into a candle shape with a food-safe wick. When lit, the butter melts into a rich dip for breads, crackers, or veggies.

For Diwali, try infusions like saffron, garlic, or chili flakes, topped with edible gold for a luxe touch. It's interactive, sustainable, and a guaranteed conversation starter. Light it, watch it melt, and dip away — because this year, the centerpiece is also the snack!

Dr Kumardev Rajamanya performs Karnataka's first ceramic total knee replacement

Dr. Kumardev Arvind Rajamanya

Dr Kumardev Arvind Rajamanya, Lead Consultant and Head of the Department of Orthopaedics, Aster Hospitals, Whitefield, has successfully performed Karnataka's first-ever total knee replacement (TKR) using a ceramic prosthesis. This process, on a 65-year-old active person, marks a new era in joint replacement surgery for the state.

The ceramic prosthesis is a superior alternative to traditional metal implants, introducing a new level of durability and patient comfort.

"The use of a ceramic prosthesis in TKR is a game-changer. Beyond its superior durability, the ceramic material is biocompatible, inert and hypoallergenic, making it a perfect solution for patients with metal allergies. Ceramic implants are also known to last longer," explains Dr Rajamanya.

The successful surgery underscored the expertise of Dr Rajamanya and his skilled team.

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FESTIVE TIME

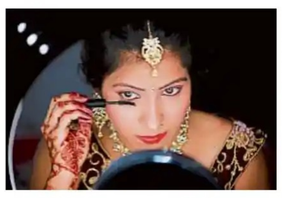
Go for make-up that suits your skin. Ask an experienced beautician for advice on products that suit you best

MAKE UP

WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

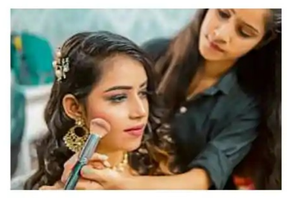
ON THE MOVE

This is the time when you spend long hours on the move. You need to keep your make-up intact through the day at times. Prepare first with a primer and use a long-lasting foundation. The base must be set with powder and ensure you use long-lasting concealer. Avoid exposure to harsh sunlight often through the day.



KEEP IT FIXED

To set the make-up firmly for a long day, finish with a setting spray. It seals your make-up in place and will prevent it from smudging or running in the middle of the day. If you have oily skin, use a blotting paper rather than wiping your face. You don't want it to be a bother through a festive day.



Festive **glow**

Make-up hacks

The festive season brings pujas, parties and photo moments - but long hours and heavy make-up can take a toll. From last-minute touch-ups to glow-boosting tricks, these beauty hacks will keep you looking radiant all day. Easy, quick, and fuss-free, they're perfect for when you need to transition from day celebrations to evening glamour in minutes.

ICE IT UP

Puffy face after a late night? Rub an ice cube wrapped in a soft cloth over your face for two minutes. It tightens pores, reduces puffiness, and instantly refreshes your skin. Follow it up with a lightweight moisturiser and a dewy foundation for a naturally radiant base that lasts through long hours of festive events.

LIPSTICK AS BLUSH

When you're rushing between outfits, skip your blush compact and dab a bit of creamy lipstick onto your cheeks. Blend with your fingers for a flushed, natural look. This hack not only saves time but also creates harmony between your lip and cheek colour, giving you a soft, festive glow without needing multiple products.

Stay smudge proof

To make eyeliner or kajal last through the evening, dust a tiny bit of translucent powder over your eyelids before applying. This absorbs excess oil and prevents smudging. Seal the liner with a matching eyeshadow to lock it in place, ensuring your eye make-up stays sharp from morning puja to late-night celebrations.

All that glitters turns into gold!

Jewellery that's both an ornament and investment is a good idea in the festive season, writes **Swatee Jog**

Jewel **box**

Ananya Krishna Mohandas, a tech-prenuer, has been investing in gold and diamonds over the last three years. "This year, I didn't want just plain gold. I wanted something that people notice - that I'll wear for years for festivals and formal events. I chose a bold traditional necklace with uncut diamonds, even though it cost more, because I know I'll use it again and again," she says. As festival lights begin to glow, jewellery purchases are no longer just about style. This season, buyers, especially the young ones, are looking for jewellery that speaks, invests and lasts. The trends reflect a shift toward pieces that are both expressive and hold long-term value.

Value for money

With gold and precious metal prices climbing, many consumers are treating jewellery not just as adornment, but as an investment too. Premium, well-branded jewellery has higher demand because of assured value while selling. Apart from gold, uncut diamond and other gemstones like paraiba, sapphire and ruby are finding a place in the limelight.

As prices soar, people are choosing smaller but high-karat pieces, or pieces with more intrinsic value like diamond or well-set uncut stones. Some prefer lab-grown diamonds to balance cost and value.

Statement pieces

The emphasis this season is on statement jewellery - bold necklaces, grand cocktail rings, large earrings or ornaments with heritage touches that are worn with pride. Pieces that become focal points of an outfit and conversation starters are favoured more than subtle accents.

There's also a tilt toward mixing metals (rose gold, yellow gold, white mixes), combining precious and semi-precious gemstones, and designs that merge tradition with modern silhouettes.

Sustainable and transparent jewellery

Buyers - especially younger ones - want more than beauty. Lab-grown diamonds, recycled metals or certified sourcing are increasingly important. Jewellery that tells a story of craftsmanship or heritage (family lineage, regional art) is gaining premium over mass-produced items.

Colour, gemstones and craft

While gold purity (karat) continues to matter, there's a rise in interest in coloured gemstones, enamel work, genuine pearls and uncut stones. These allow for expressive designs as well as diversification of investment. A ruby, emerald or coloured sapphire piece might not appreciate as predictably as gold, but its uniqueness and scarcity give it value as a collectible. So, it can be monetised long after it has been bought.

Utility plus versatility

Festival purchases are being made with multiple occasions in mind - weddings, festivals and public appearances. Pieces that can be dressed up or down, that work with both traditional and Indo-Western outfits, or change (modular parts, reversible designs) are very popular. This gives more usage and better returns on investment.

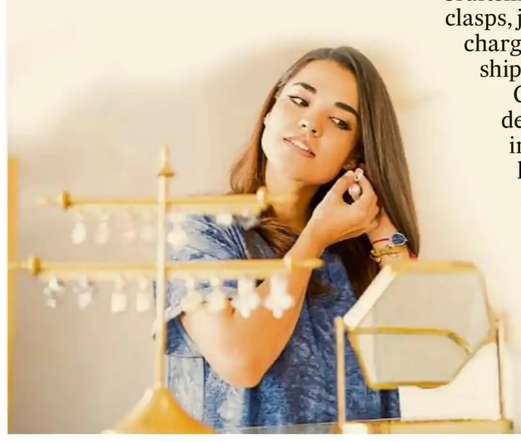
Smart investments in jewellery

If you're planning to buy jewellery this festival season that also works for you as an investment, here are some tips

Verify purity and certification: Get BIS hallmark or equivalent for gold. Ensure gemstone certifications from credible labs.

Choose timeless statement designs: Avoid pieces trending now that may go out of style. A well-made choker, heritage necklace, a cocktail ring with strong design signature – these tend to retain value.

Other metals and materials: While gold remains strong, consider adding platinum, lab-grown diamonds or coloured gemstones. Metals with mixed tones are finding favour.



Craftsmanship matters: Setting quality, clasps, joints, polish. Higher making charges often reflect better craftsmanship which retains value.

Consider resale value: Choose designs that are likely to remain in demand. Ethnic designs with heritage appeal often retain or increase value. Proper documentation helps.

Budget smart: If prices are too high for you, spread purchases. For example, buy a high-value piece now and add smaller accent pieces later. Also, look for discounts and waivers on making charges or festival offers.

Set in stone!

Stone jewellery is poised to be the next big trend, says **Jayanthi Madhukar**

Stone **tone**

Stone jewellery is increasingly being seen not merely as ornaments, but as a mindset. The choices are manifold - jade, amethyst, turquoise and more - worn as necklaces, bracelets or earrings. Yet the treatment of semi-precious and standard stones has undergone a subtle transformation. Jewellers are now approaching stones such as jade not just as heirlooms or spiritual artefacts, but as fashionable, everyday accessories.

Hobbyist jewellery-maker Deeksha Ram discovered her passion when a friend gifted her a string of irregular turquoise beads. "Instead of visiting the local jeweller to commission a necklace, I decided to craft a waistbelt with the beads scattered along it," she recalls. "It looks beautiful over a black dress or my favourite pair of vintage jeans."

For years, stones have been worn imbued with meaning - believed to ward off negativity, usher in good fortune, and enhance health and well-being. Many wear stones associated with their birth month, letting personal significance dictate their choices. Even today, stones are rarely worn solely for aesthetic reasons but with a lot of value and significance attached. But what seems to have changed is that there is a shift in perception of jewellery designs.

Among the most popular forms is the bracelet. "Since bracelets are gender-neutral accessories, we are now seeing both men and women wearing colourful stone beads like jade or tiger's eye as personalised bracelets," Ram notes. "They are not only trendy but also add a pop of colour to a neutral-toned outfit."

The use of semi-precious stones, rather than high-value diamonds or precious gems in gold jewellery, is gaining traction among younger clients. "My favourite piece is a gold chain with a large, irregular pendant made of Darjeeling stone," says Ramya Rao, an advocate. "It elevates both my white summer dress and my little black dress. It feels far more versatile than a diamond pendant, which, given my budget, would have been rather understated and lowkey."

Coloured stone earrings are enjoying a resurgence, cherished for their vibrant palette and variety. Rich corals, malachites and turquoise exude a warm vibrancy, while pale jade or jadeite offer a subtler, refined elegance. "My mother began collecting jade while studying in Beijing," Ram shares. "She became fascinated by the many varieties - some, such as imperial jade, are in fact more valuable than diamonds. She has a traditional jade bangle, which is how most women wear heirloom jade, but she also collected loose stones of random shapes and sizes. Depending on transparency, colour and texture, these pieces are quite valuable." Ram plans to repurpose these into rings and bracelets for personal use. "I have fallen in love with jade. I want to create pieces that can be passed down to my children."

This season, chunky chokers crafted from colourful stones are commanding attention for their bold, sculptural aesthetics. These pieces showcase the beauty of organic shapes and textures, blending natural charm with modern functionality.

Styling stone jewellery remains straightforward, guided largely by visual impact. A monochromatic choker in jade or any other stones can elevate a formal shirt or a classically tailored dress. As the ensemble becomes more playful or vibrant, so too can the jewellery; larger cuts, unusual shapes and richer colours come into play. Even casual combinations - such as a T-shirt and shorts - have their match in a colourful bracelet or a stone pendant strung on a braided thread.

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Whiff of celebrations

Diwali is a sensory celebration, and your fragrance deserves to be a part of this festive season. A carefully-chosen perfume completes your festive look.

This season, spicy, warm scents are a perfect match for the mood. Look for perfumes with notes of cardamom, saffron or cinnamon to complement the richness of festive evenings. These blends feel luxurious and pair beautifully with silks and brocades.

For daytime pujas and brunches, floral and citrus-based scents are ideal. Jasmine, rose or neroli bring a fresh, uplifting energy, while citrus notes like bergamot or mandarin add brightness and cheer.

If you want something modern and sophisticated, woody and amber notes are a winning choice. Sandalwood, cedar and musk-based perfumes strike the right balance between subtle and statement-making, perfect for those late-night parties.

A light spritz on pulse points - wrists, behind the ears, and collarbones - ensures your fragrance lingers softly without overwhelming.

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telecomemphousingtrust.com 9353097546

In most real estate projects, the developer earns a profit. However, the Telecom Employees and Others Housing Welfare Trust has introduced a unique concept where customers themselves become developers! With the customers' own investments, land is purchased and developed, and as a result, all the profits from the project are passed directly to the customers. The visionary behind this innovative model is **N. Narasimha Murthy**, President Founder, Telecom Employees & Others Housing Welfare Trust (R). He has been providing affordable plots under this innoative"Customers as Developers" concept.

Narasimha Murthy, a former BSNL employee, founded the Telecom Employees & Others Housing Welfare Trust (R)

on April 21, 2017. Initially created for telecom employees, this model has since been extended to other sectors. Employees and customers can become members of the trust and apply for plots. Membership is set at a meagre ₹2,100, with ₹1,000 from this amount directed to a welfare fund used for social services such as aiding schools, orphanages, and religious institutions.

Unique Concept

"We collect the first and second installments from customers and use that to purchase the land. The third installment is used for land conversion, and the fourth installment is used to develop the land and complete the remaining processes before registering the plots in the customers' names," explains N. Narasimha Murthy.

The Trust does not rely on bank loans or external financiers, which means there are no extra costs or profits taken by a developer. This results in significantly lower prices for customers and employees.

DR. N. NARASIMHA MURTHY (PRESIDENT)

Multiple Layouts Across Cities

Over the past seven years, the Telecom Employees and Housing Welfare Trust has developed layouts in several locations including Bengaluru, Mysuru and Tumakuru. The Trust has undertaken nine projects, starting with Nagavalli in Tumkur. Although progress slowed during the COVID-19 pandemic, eight more projects have since been launched, all of which are currently under development. The Telecom Hills Residency project in Basavapatna, Tumakuru, has begun with land conversion and layout construction.

A Commitment to Social Service

Narasimha Murthy is equally passionate about social service. He has prioritized education and religious activities, distributing books to 6,000 school children and providing uniforms and blazers to 300 students. Additionally, he manages the Mahalakshmi Temple in Nelamangala.

Headquarters and Branches

The Trust operates from its headquarters in Ganganagar and has two branches. Currently, the Trust employs 25 full-time staff and 60-70 part-time staff.

Awards and Recognition

Narasimha Murthy's contributions have earned him numerous accolades, including the Business Excellence Award and the India Malaysia International Iconic Award. He was also recognized by Khushi Publications as an Emerging Star and his life story has been featured in the book Roots Success.

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- TELECOM TECH PARK CITY
- TELECOM EVERGREEN CITY
- TELECOM HILLS RESIDENCY
- TELECOM GREEN HILLS RESIDENCY
- TELECOM ASHWA RESIDENCY
- TELECOM SANDAL CITY

Rich Legacy

Born into poverty, Narasimha Murthy overcame many challenges, working his way through evening college and eventually joining BSNL. He served as the Secretary of the Bengaluru District Union and as a leader of the Karnataka Circle Union. He was also a member of LCM. In addition to his real estate ventures, Narasimha Murthy has a passion for the arts. He has been involved in theater and community drama groups, and has even ventured into film direction.

He has written short stories and poetry, and his acting skills earned him the Best Actor Award at the state level. Narasimha Murthy's visionary approach continues to offer affordable housing options while serving the community, making him a unique force in the real estate sector.

Contact:
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Anjanapura

SITE FOR Sale Anjanapura 10 Block BDA 50X80 - 4000 sqft South Facing Contact: 9844274211

Banashankari

BANASHANKARI 6TH STAGE- BDA-AVAILABLE/ WANTED 20x30, 30x40 40x60, 50x80 SITES. BRINDAVAN ASSOCIATES-9980863245/ 9945333993

AVAILABLE BANASHANKARI 6th Stage, 6th Block 30x40, W/F,Near 100" Road Budget Friendly Call Lingaraju: 9663393533

WEST FACING SITE 30'x45' for sale in Banashankari 1st stage, Srinagar, for price call: 9845380312

BDA AUCTION Site, Banashankari 6th Stage, 10th Block, 20X30 Corner site, North West facing. 9900266984

BDA BSK 5th Stage Near PP Layout Uttarahalli Opposite Pattalamma Temple 30x40 E/F: 9448531837/ 9606922132

BANASHANKARI 6TH Stage,BDA 40x60, Site For Sale Near 100 Feet Road Cheque Payment: 9916817739

Chandra Layout

BDA AUCTION Site 1632 sqft. North East Corner, Rs. 25000 /sft. Chandra Layout, Near ICICI Bank. 9448016234 9945779309

Jayanagar

3RD BLOCK East Facing 2 Adjoining 40X60 BDA Sites 9Cr. Each. Settler: 9845035333/ 9880225333

PROPERTY SALE Jayanagar 30X40, 40X60, 45X90 AND JP-NAGAR 30×40, 20×65, 40×60, 50×80: 9845075792/ 9880600899

J P Nagar

BDA LAND 2400 Sft With Old Villa Brokers Excuse Genuine Buyers Only Contact Owner:9341273990

Kengeri

FOR SALE Kengeri Upanagara 40x60 BDA Site Rs.15000/- Per Sqft. Clear titles. Contact: 9844092859

Kempegowda Layout

BDA SITE AVAILABLE @ NADAPRABHU KEMPEGOWDA LAYOUT 30x40, 40x60, 50x80 Residential/ Commercial. Contact: 9686469799

NADA PRABHU Kempegowda layout BDA Site For Sale 30x40, 40x60, 50x80 Contact: 7676900174 6363496142

DIRECT OWNER Near Metro Station, Kempegowda Layout, Vishweshwaraiah Layout, 30x40, 40x60, 50x80 Commercial: 9620696913/ 9880781399

Multiple Locations

AVAILABLE/ WANTED Apartment Basavanagudi, Banashankari, Chamrajpete, Shankarapuram, V.V.Pura, Hanumanthnagar, Girinagar, Residencial/ Commercial Sites Sale: 9900399006

Nagarabhavi

30X50 WEST D-Group Nagrabhavi BDA BBMP A-Katha, 30x40 North West Corner, 30x46 Rs. 14500/- 9980409820

Nelamangala

NELMANGALA BMRDA A Katha South West Corner Site 33.5X50, (60ft, 30ft Road) Near NH-4: 8310681025

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4800 SQFT., CORNER PROPERTY FOR SALE, 3 sides with road access, NEAR MANYATA TECH PARK, IN THANISANDRA, Behind Elements Mall. Rs. 3.6 CRORE. 9449281474, 8237436295

Vijayanagar

SITE FOR SALE: 60X90 WEST FACING WOC ROAD RPC LAYOUT ONLY GENUINE BUYERS CONTACT: 6363250343

Vishweshwariah Layout

BUYING/ SELLING 20x30, 30x40, 40x60, 50x80 BDA Sites VISHVESHWARAIAH LAYOUT, KEMPEGOWDA LAYOUT, Contact: 9035470616

BDA SITE SALE VISHWESHWARAIAH LAYOUT 1ST BLOCK 30X40 EAST FACE 13000/- NEGOTIABLE DIRECT OWNER MEETING CONTACT: 8892901567

"VISHVESWARAIAH 1ST_BLOCK 50x80 North 6th Block 40x60 West 5th Block 30x40 Good location. 9448227274/ 7259675150"

AVAILABLE BDA Site Vishweshwariah Layout 3rd Block 30X40 West Facing Good Location Genuine Buyers: 7338688111

VISHWESHWARAIAH LAYOUT 9th 50x60 NW Site. 2145 Commercial 60ft RTO Road Rs. 24000/- Sqft: 9845793121

Bidadi

SITE FOR SALE, 40x60 'E' Khatha, North facing, at Bidadi 2 Sites Available, No Agreement, Single Shot Payment. 50 Lakhs each. Contact: 080-23342399 or 9538995333

Basaweshwaranagar

SITE FOR SALE VALUED 2 CRORE 50 LAKHS NOW SELLING FOR 2 CRORE ONLY: 9035883017

RMV

SITE FOR SALE 50x88 North East corner BDA site, Kalpana Chawla Road RMV 2nd Stage. Genuine buyers only. Contact: 9535673309

Mysore

SITE FOR SALE 100'x80' North facing Adipampa Road, Mysore,suitable for complex, hospital, flats. Contact: 7676058694

Hegganahalli

SITE SALE 160x100ft In Hegganahalli Cross Bangalore A Katha Borewell Brick wall Fenced: 9900287834/ 9448377834

House

Basaveshwaranagar

INDEPENDENT HOUSE LEASE 5 BHK 60 LAKHS, 3BHK 30 LAKHS, 2 BHK 30 LAKHS: 9035883017

Jayanagar

JAYANAGAR 8TH BLOCK 30x50 SALE NORTH Facing OLD HOUSE EXCELLENT LOCATION. Rs.44K NEGOTIABLE. SHIVU 9880004149 9035441234

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Mathikere

MATHIKERE OLD house for sale 24.5X54sqft South facing behind devasandra Bus stand new BEL road Contact 9360977313 /9900578022

Vishweshwariah Layout

"4BHK DUPLEX House with`Lift Railway Layout and`3BHK House Vishveshwaraiah 1st Block for sale. 9845014134"

Annapoorneshwari Nagar

BDA SITE Sale, East facing, 30X40, 3 BHK, Annapoorneshwarinagar, Nagarabhavi 2nd stage. Contact: 9019962007

Flat

Banashankari

"BANASHANKARI 2ND_STAGE 2BHK_Flat higher floor with Club house North_door Rs.1.65_Crore "Sri.Ganesh Estate"-9845286505"

Intl Airport Road

IAF YELAHANKA Hunasamaranahalli:2BHK 62L, 3BHK 72L, 3BHK with Terrace Sale Rs. 130Lakhs.Ct: 9343757676

R T Nagar

GROUND FIRST DUPLEX INDEPENDENT FLAT 1 BHK VACANT POSITION READY TO OCCUPY 60 LAKHS: 9035883017

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BTM Layout

BTM LAYOUT, Sale Commercial Corner, 2,500 sft. Site with Old House. Price: 40,000/- David 9845855663

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Commercial Building

Domlur

RENTAL PG building BUA 6000sft site 1600 sft for sale in domlur at Rs 6cr .Agents excuse 9845440436

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Sites

Multiple Locations

WANTED BDA_SITES Anjanapura- Arkavathi Banashankari 6th.Stage, Vishweswaraiah, Kempegowda. SAPTHAGIRI (Opp.BDA_Head Office, Kumara Park). 9036360366.

Vishweshwariah Layout

BUYING/ SELLING 20x30,30x40,40x60 50x80 BDA sites at VISHVESHWARAIAH LAYOUT, BSK 6th-stage. Contact: 9844533371/ 9341733480

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BANASHANKARI 6TH_STAGE 80`Feet Road,11th`Block 50x80 Site Built-to-Suit. And 2nd`Block, 80`Feet Road,50x80 RENT for Vacant`Site. Call_9945724472

800 SQFT Office space for Rent No. 56/6, 2nd Floor, Nandini Layout, FTI Circle, above SBI Bank, Bangalore Contact: 9845030795

1150 SFT SW corner, for showrooms, etc : 8197237859

Flats

2 BHK for SENIOR LIVING. 30K. With Mantenance. call 9482562481

Villas/Bunglows

FOR RENT Vasanth Nagar 5 BHK Bunglow. Near Mahaveer Jain Hospital. Vegetarians Only: 9844072344/ 9844830500

Industrial And Factory

AVAILABLE OF Industrial Shed of 75000`sqft at Soukya Road, Whitefield. Available Built-to-Suit Warehouse 160000 sqft`Vijipura Hoskote Contact: 9341234288/ 9663224353/ 9845417487.

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Flat

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9945192111
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PERSONAL

Change of Name

I JAYASREE sudharsan d/o T.Kasinathan, Flat no.411, Majestic fortune, A block, Eswara layout 2nd main Rd, Bangalore 560062. Henceforth be known as JAYASREE UMA

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Minati Rani Singh** W/o Pinakpani Sarkar, R/at Sapthagiri Residency, No.101, 1st Floor, 1st Main Road, BOB Colony, J P Nagar, 7th Phase, Bengaluru-560078, have changed my name to **MINATI SARKAR** vide affidavit dated 26.09.2025 before notary S.I. Balaguru, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called **MINATI SARKAR** only

Lost

LOST
I, Ramappa S/o Basavannapa R/a Papanna Reddy Layout, GS Palya, Bangalore- 560100, Security officer of **Adrit Ventures Pvt. Ltd., have lost a bag containing the Statutory Registers and files of the Company.** Lost on 08.09.2025 at Electronic City, Bangalore. If anybody found please call: **9945476542 or nearby police station.**

DOCUMENT LOST
I, **Prakash B G,** R/at No.80, Shreekuteera, 5th Cross, Santosh Nagar, Pipeline Road, T. Dasarahalli, Bengaluru-560057, have lost the **Original Sale Deed (Document / Identification No. PNY-1-03177-2016-17, CD No. PNYD645, at Book-1, Registered dtd: 17th August, 2016,** while in transit. If found please **Contact No: 8660467998.**

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the Public that my clients **Mr. Vijay Varadarajan & Mr. Madhavan Varadarajan,** who are joint owners of the property no.105, 3rd cross, KSRTC Layout, J.P. Nagar-2nd Phase, Bengaluru-560078 have lost/misplaced their original sale deed dated 22-12-2007 bearing Doc.no.JPN-1-04964-2007-08 pertaining to the said property. In that regard a Lost Article Report bearing No.1821170/2025 has been registered with Karnataka State Police. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out or anybody having any sort of claim either over the said document or over the aforesaid property, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address **WITHIN 15 DAYS** from this present.
PRITHVI RAJ B. N., Advocate No.71, ground floor, 8th cross, 1st main, Sampangiramanagar, Bengaluru-560027. Ph: **9886563092** E-mail: prithviraj.bn@gmail.com

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Total No. of Students opted for Placements	247
Total No. of students placed*	216
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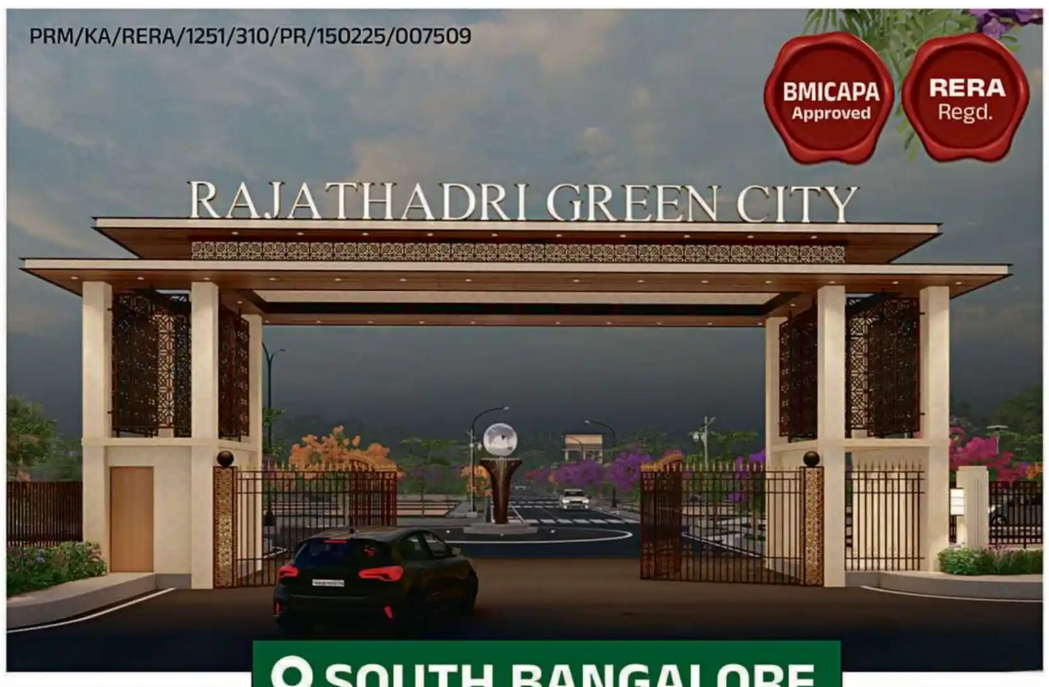

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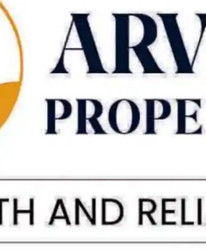
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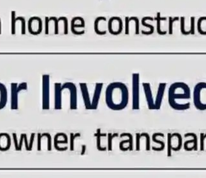
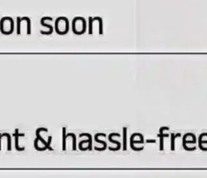

Recreational Parks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